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When the Mirror crack'd, media times pages 40-43 FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS page 49

WEEKDAY

# Waiting list fund raided to pay nurses

By JILL SHERMAN AND ROLAND WATSON

THE Government sparked protests yesterday by announcing that it is to raid the £1 billion health service modernisation fund to finance big pay rises for nurses.

Downing Street angered bealth service managers when it admitted that it intended to use money earmarked for reducing waiting lists and buy-ing high-technology equip-ment to top up nurses pay.

Junior nurses are expected to receive 11 per cent increases. Monday when a £4 million nunched while others in the profession will receive an aver-

age of 4.7 per cent.

The awards will cost £400 million more than had been set aside for health service pay, but the Government appears prepared to use money intended for other purposes to stay within Gordon Brown's public spending limits.

The Cabinet yesterday approved pay awards for the 1.3 million employees covered by the five independent pay review bodies: teachers, armed forces, nurses and midwives: degrors and dentists, and sen-All of the awards will be met in full and none will be ohased.

hased. Mr Brown told colleagues that the settlement was affordable and right, but made clear that cash would have to be found out of existing alloca-

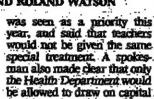
That is likely to annoy councils, which have already said. that if they have to pay teachers more than another 3 per cent, they will be unable to meet Tony Blair's pledge to cut ciassroom sizes.

Teachers are expected to get wards of up to 4 per cent, doc-10 3.5 per cent, Armed Forces 3 in 3.5 per cent and judges and senior civil servants about 3 per cent. Downing Street admitted that nurse recruitment

TV & RADIO SSS WEATHER 28 CROSSWORDS #5 SIMON TENKTIYS : 34 CHESSA BRIDGE COURTS SOCIAL 26 STYLE MEDIA BUSINESS 29-33 and the second of

Buying The Times oversors Austria Sch 5th Belgiam B Frs 10c Canada. 33.5th Canadia Frs 40th Cyprus CLL 20. Den-mark 20th 22.0th Finland Frait 30.3th France FR 17.0th Germany D44 5.5th Gibralian 90pc Greece Dr 75th Netherlands Ff 4.5th Inly 4. 5.50th Levembourg 21 10th Madeina Eac 80th Mains 80th Moreover Dir 30.0th Physics Ff 5.0th Physical Eac 80th Spain Fer 40th Swe-den Str 25(ft) Switzerland 5 Frs 16.0th Time-its Prio 4.1th 11.5th 15.5th th Din 1,700 USA \$3.50. ordinals Pressage Paid at Radiosay NJ Post-ter: Send address corrections for The





modernisation funds. The NHS modernisation fund was set up last July specifically to address information technology, improve waiting lists, to modernise hospital departments and educate staff in new treatment patterns. When the Treasury published its rethat the energy money — E5 billion over these years — would be for improving health service. es rather than for pay awards.
Yesterday health officials
said that £741 million had already been committed from

£1.2 billion to be allocated in the coming financial year, and estimated that the remaining money would be almost entirely absorbed by the pay award. Stephen Thornton, chief ex-ecutive of the NHS Confedera-

tion, which represents health service employers said: The consequence is that we won't be able to modernise the NHS next year. That is a terrible shame because everybody in the NHS\_staff, managers, doctors, murses want to do that." Ann Widdecombe, Shadow Health Secretary urged the Government to fund the

award from central reserves.

"Clinical services should not suffer because the Government does not pass enough money to pay for the review body recommendations," she "We have already seen other services suffering this winter because of the waiting list mitiative. The Govern ment says it is spending 221 bil-lion on the NHS so where is their problem in hunding the nurses pay award properly?
The former Conservative Chancellor Kenneth Clarke said that the Government had landed itself in a dreadful mess. They have aroused very timeal expectations, they have grossly etaggerated the amount of money they have made available to pay these pay settlements and they face a deteriorating economic situa-

son, so they have got no room. The Liberal Democrats called for an immediate injection of £500 million from Treasury reserves to prevent a collapse in NHS morale and to save thousands of teachers'



# Ritz besieged by the aluminium army

By ALAN HAMILTON AND MICHAEL HARVEY

The biggest aluminium army seen on the streets of Landon for some years besieged the Ritz in Piccadilly last night in the hope of snatching the picture of the decade.

phers, each with his jealously guarded ladder and accompa nied by reporters and broadcasting crews, crammed a 30-yard stretch of pavement on the strength of as tip-off that, after a decade of hole-inthe corner skulduggery and pretence, the Prince of Wales would finally present himself in public with his long standing companion Camilla Park-

A shot of the couple together, snatched in private, could have netted a freelance photog-rapher an estimated £2 million from magazines around the world. Last night, the word was that the Prince and his companion would quash that opportunity for individual money-making by appearing in public for all to see.

The occasion was a party to relebrate the 50th birthday of Mrs Parker Bowles's younger sister, Annabel Elliott. The Prince was hosting a charity dinner at St James's Palace less than five minutes drive, or even a brisk walk through

car business for £3.9 billion,



Camilla Parker Bowles: party to celebrate sister's birthday

back alleys, away. He was expected to join the Ritz party for the last hour.

But the Ritz has many entrances, and it was feared that the couple, deterred by the

huge gathering of cameramen and the wave of preliminary speculation, might be put off and leave separately and discreetly by the back door. As early as 9am on Wednes-



"taped up" and then "laddered up" by representatives of the Sun, Mirror and Daily Mail. They were swiftly followed by independent photo agencies, other newspapers and TV com-panies. Within a few hours a straggling copse of ladders had sprung up as word spread, and by Wednesday night it had become a forest. The ladder has become as much a part of the royal photographer's equipment as his flashgun and long iens. Cheap, portable and available at all good DIY stores, it not only gives the snapper a better

Respect for the ladder system is demanded, with official stickers and unofficial warning notes such as: "Don't even think about moving these

In the past, especially around Westminster, police have caused chaos and nearinis by comiscating ders in over-zealous security swoops. Last night most newspapers had at least half a dozen photographers in place to cover every possible angle.

The conviction that this was the night was fuelled by an absence of any firm denial from St James's Palace, and the belief that, if the Prince was at last going to present Mrs Park-er Bowles, be would do it at an occasion more associated with her than with himself.

There have been other opportunities, such as the wedding last October of Simon Sebag-Montefiore and Santa Palmer-Tomkinson at a north

London synagogue, at which they arrived and departed with conspicuous separation. But to have been seen together then would have stolen the bride and groom's thunder.

Eighteen months ago it was rumoured that the Prince and Mrs Parker Bowles would make a clean breast of their relationship by appearing together at functions of the National Osteoporosis Society, with which Mrts Parker Bowles is associated, but if any such plans existed they were put firmly on ice by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Now that the first anniversa ry of that tragedy is well past, the couple may feel the time is right to appear together. On the other hand, the patient snappers speculated, they might equally well creep out by the back door, long and infuriating minutes apart.

Prying lenses, page 6

#### Volvo to close No room to spin a doctor Scottish plant Ford is to take over Volvo's

BY RACHEL KELLY AND BEN WAKEHAM

having apparently outbid Fiat of Italy. Volvo will now con-PETER MANDELSON may centrate on truck and bus production - but it announced well have to start at the bottom the closure of its lorry assemof the ladder and work his bly plant in Irvine. Ayrshire, way up again when he sells his spacious town house in with the loss of at least 250 Notting Hill. He has indicated that he wants to stay in the area but.

EU manifesto the money he has to spend Tony Blair is to sign up to a pan-European election manifesto that praises the euro. may mean that he can only af-ford a flat on the "smallish" commits the Government to . Local estate agents said that with an expected £250,000 to spend he could afford a twotrimming the scope for the veto in EU policy-making, and ending harmful tax comNorthumberland Place, Court-

nell Street. But Richard Ford, from the Kensington office of the estate agents Knight Frank said that by staying in the area he would find it difficult to match the kind of capital gains he had made when he bought his house in Northumberland Place, which has seen a rise in value of around £250,000. "Basically, Mr Mandelson will be starting again, Mr Ford said. Should he decide to leave

Noting Hill and has around £250,000 to spend, that would pay for a two-bedroom flat in one of the Georgian houses

working days to get to grips

The rules were published in

with the new system.



# Legal Latin outlawed pro bono publico

bedroom upper maisonette in the neighbouring street to

BY FRANCES GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE legal language and tradi-tions that have characterised civil courts for decades are swept away in new set of rules published today. On April 26, old terms such

as "writ" and "plaintiff" will be replaced by "claim forms" and "claimant". Out will go familiar Latin tags such as exparte, interpartes and in coment, and in will come with notice", "without notice" and "in private". The court will give its "permission" rather than "leave" and the distinguished

JUSTICE THE MODERN WAY statement of case next friend/guardian ad litem.

Amon Piller order will turn dons old traditions to lay into a plain old search order. down new procedures giving The 800 page document published by the Lord Chanceling cases and dictaining the lor's Department also aban- pace of litigation.

in private without notice ... with notice itigation friend freezing injunction

their final form for the first time on the Lord Chancellor's Department Website last week and today they will be availa-ble as a £250 book from the Stationery Office. The Office is expecting hundreds of orders and there are already fears

There will also be a new multhat it will be unable to meet titrack dispute system with casdemand. es allocated according to their complexity and how much money is at stake.

Frances . McCarthy, vice resident of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, said: "People are getting anxious and a little panicky. There is a But solicitors are starting to panic over the tight timescale, which gives them only 60 very large amount of information to get through - and the point is that it is all starting afresh, chucking out all the existing rules."

Dave McNeill, Law Society spokesman, said: "It will be quite a struggle", but he did not expect chaos on April 26, so long as solicitors, barris-ters, judges and court staff "pulled very hard together".



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# Follow the Primarolo Rule and keep your insults general

MATTHEW PARRIS

aybe Gordon
Brown is just a
morning person. Maybe commentaries on his grumpiness overlook the simple fact that the Chancellor doesn't do afternoons.

The thought was prompted by an astonishingly cocky performance from Mr Brown at Treasury Questions yesterday - the first time in memory that they have been held before lunch. The change is a small revolution for MPs and journalists. We are used to seeing these sessions conducted

in a heavy-eyelidded, post-lunch haze the time when a little afternoon snooze beckons - to some MPs, irresistibly. Even awake, few of us are at our best. The atmosphere is often leaden, the exchanges tetchy or dull. Everyone has noticed the difference morning makes. But with none is the contrast more marked than Gordon Brown.

After morning coffee yesterday, he looked around the chamber, and — yes! Those heavy features quivered, like porridge coming to the boil. and then cracked open into a grin. Few have seen Mr Brown grin before. As Tony Blair grows more defensive, Gordon Brown seems to be cheering up. Curious. The grin persisted. Brown was in hugely confident form.

from Labour. Brown grinned Within minutes he ripped again. So much for detribalisation. The spring never left his step. The Tories, their Treasinto the Liberal Democrats, accusing their Treasury spokesman, Malcolm Bruce, of false accounting. Mr Bruce had actually welcomed Brown's ury spokesmen all lined up with little cue cards and folders - earnest and devilishly spending plans. "I'm not godever questions, far too long, written or typed neatly - nev-er made him sweat, though on ing to take any lectures from Liberal Democrats," he

POLITICAL SKETCH roared, to a tremendous cheer

paper Brown's Tory Shadow, Francis Maude, had him cornered on whether he was planning for sterling to shadow the euro. Unassailed, this Treasury team are not unassailable. Brown is smart. Barbara Roche is steady. Alan Milburn is a posh Geordie smartypants. Patricia Hewitt recites pap as though she ing class. And to Dawn Primarolo we return in a moment.

There are coconuts here waiting for Tories to take aim. But where are they? Yesterday there were just 16 present for Treasury Questions, the first of 1999. And not a single woman. On the Labour side there were 52 backbenchers, including ten women. Three of the five Treasury ministers were "Stupid woman!" women. shouted Conservative spokes man Nick Gibb at the new

Primarolo. It is true that Ms Primarolo is, fairly evidently. a woman; it is also arguable that she was floundering under cross-examination by Tory spokesman John Wittingdale, and it is undemable that if this sketch were to call Mr Gibb a stupid man he might be offended, but not on behalf of the whole male sex. So La-

bour's fury seemed unfair. Life, however, is unfair. And Madam Speaker is a woman. She hit the roof. "I believe you insulted half this na-

1 porabled to dand led to tion's population," yelled Bet-iy Boothroyd at the hapless Gibb, "and I am one of them!"
Gibb apologised relighty fast.
Perhaps this went to Primarolo's head. Minutes later she accused the last Government

of "verging on dishonesty" The Chair ordered her to withdraw. Primarolo explained she meant the Government in eneral, "not any individual" Following what we may Ww call the Primarolo Rule, Mr Gibb would be well advised in future to shout in her direc-

#### Senior **Tories** attack Hague

BY ROLAND WATSON

WILLIAM Hague came under fire from two Tory elder statesman yesterday as the party reacted badly to evidence that it had again failed to capitalise on Tony Blair's Christmas troubles.
Michael

Heseltine warned that leading Tories along with businessmen were being driven out of the party over Mr Hague's "incomprehensible" Euro-

pean policy.
In a separate attack, Kenneth Clarke cautioned the party against believing it could close the gap on Labour by relying on a new breed of spin-doctors.

The twin criticism came the day after the after the latest Mori poll in The Times showed the Tories have fallen further behind Labour despite the Government's "black Christmas". Their comments are likely to re-fuel the internal Tory debate about the influence of Cabinet right-wingers.
Ann Widdecombe tried

to calm Tory jitters yesterday, saying that "the steadiest of nerves" was required rather than a rush of "quick fixes".

nerve, there will be everything to play for," she told

> Peter Riddell, page 13 Mary Ann Sieghart, page 24

# Blair commits Britain to the euro dream

By Charles Bremner in Brussels and Philip Webster

TONY BLAIR will today sign up to a pan-European election manifesto that strongly praises the euro and commits the Government to trimming the veto in EU policy-making and Labour to ending "harmful tax The Prime Minister travels

to Vienna for a meeting of European socialist party leaders to endorse a programme pri-marily drafted by Robin Cook. the Foreign Secretary, blending standard new Labour goals with the pro-European rhetoric of continental leftists. Mr Blair's stance provoked Tory accusations last night that he was "selling Britain

The manifesto, for the June elections to the European Parliament, unites Labour and the 19 other social democrat parties of the EU in 21 pledges for "a new beginning for the European Union".

But unlike previous Euroelection manifestos, which carried British reservations, Labour has inserted no qualifications over the single currency and had embraced the mainstream thinking of the leftwing parties that now run 11 of the EU's 15 governments.

The draft says: "The euro should make a significant con-

tribution to promoting sustainable growth, low inflation and high levels of employment. It is in the interest of all member states, whether members of the single currency or not, that the euro is a success. A sound euro will protect Europe against the destabilising pres-sures of currency speculation, allow for lower interest rates and contribute to a reformed and more stable financial

"It will also increase the purchasing power of the consum-er through greater price stabili-ty, reduced costs for business and improve competition ... We commit ourselves to ensuring that the single currency achieves a smooth introduction and provides growth, em-

ployment and stability."
In recent weeks Mr Cook has been portrayed as wanting the Government to take a more positive stance on joining the euro in the run-up to the next election, and the manifesto is the one of most unequivocal endorsements of the single currency yet given by the Government.

However, the Government's policy of ruling out British membership of the euro before the next Parliament is not about to change and Mr Cook has told friends that he is not seeking a change in the policy.
Attacking the manifesto pas-

sages on the euro, the veto and tax harmonisation, the Tories last night accused Mr Blair of selling Britain short in Europe.
Michael Trend, the shadow Europe Minister, said: "Time and time again they have given the British public false assurances." When speaking at home Tony
Blair claims he is standing up
for Britain. But when seated
round the discussion tables of
Europe, Labour are carried by
the left-wing tide."

The document was drawn up by Mr Cook and Henri Nallet of the French Socialist party. Adopting the slogan of Li-onel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, it says: "We say 'yes' to a market economy, but 'no' to a market society." ☐ John Gummer, the former

Tory Cabinet minister, said yesterday that Britain would lose all influence over what happened in Europe if it stayed outside the single currency. Mr Gummer, one of the few euro-enthusiasts on the fory benches, also accused Rupert Murdoch of encouraging his newspapers to set an anti-European agenda rather than report what was actually

The BT shop

communication experts



BY MARCUS BINNEY

LUTON HOO, the most magnificent Edwardian stately home in Britain, has been sold to an anonymous buyer after languishing on the mar-ket for nearly two years. The price is believed to be well under the original asking price of £25 million for the house, stables, 1,500 acres of parkland and 47 cottages; possibly

Hoo's got a bargain?

as low as £8 million. The enormous asking price matched the debts left by Nicholas Phillips, the owner of the estate. who committed suicide in 1991 after a scheme to build a business park on the estate col-

Luton Hoo formed the spec-

Group runs Brocket Hall as conference centre. Also men and a Funeral. The original tioned are Bill Gates who last Robert Adam house was handyear was part of an investsomely remodelled early this century by the architects ment consortium that bought our Cliveden plc. Meyes & Davis who designed

The magnificent Wernhei collection, previously housed at Luton Hoo, is likely to go

# Jet lands on watchdog's desk

By Roland Watson and Jill Sherman

THE public-spending watch-dog was last night called in to investigate ministers' travel expenses after Gordon Brown refused to say whether he had cost taxpayers £18,000 by char-

tering a jet. Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, referred the matter to the National Audit Office as Downing Street tried to head off a growing row by saying the Government spent less on ministerial travel than the Tories had done in office. Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor General, is now likely to investigate the

whole issue of government

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Teacher cleared of

A teacher at an independent girls' school accused of having

an affair with a 14-year-old pupil was cleared yesterday of indecent assault. Daniel Angadi, 54, a father of two, of Leytonstone, East London, hugged his second wife, a former pupil at the school, after how was aquitted of all five charges after two houses deliberations.

pupil at the school, after he was admined of all two charges after two hours' deliberation by a jury at Southwark Crown Court. He was alleged to have had illicit sex with the girl between January 1985 and June 1996.

He admitted that he and Miss X, who is now 28, had an affair but said that it started after she completed her A level.

els and was about to go to university. He was confronted with the allegations last April and was immediately sus-

pended from the school, where he had taught for 25 years.

Battery hen cage ban

Battery hen cages could be abolished throughout Europe after the European Parliament voted yesterday to ban their use by January I, 2009. Almost 90 per cent of British eggs come from battery hens, and the percentage is higher in the

EU. Although government ministers can ignore the Parliament's wishes, the vote by MEPs will greatly increase the moral pressure for battery cages to be phased out. Egg pro-

ducers said they would demand compensation if they were forced to switch to more expensive free range system

NUT goes for a zone

The National Union of Teachers announced plans to apply

to join forces with the Oxfordshire Education Authority in

running one of the Government's Education Action Zones.

The move is a radical departure for the union, many of

whose members view business involvement in the zones as

a form of creeping privatisation. At a conference on the

zones. Doug McAvoy, the NUT general secretary, said the

union's involvement would act as a bulwark against government efforts to sideline local education authorities.

Adams up for the Cup

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, will be among the fans from Northern Ireland watching Ulster play the French team Colomiers in the final of rugby union's European Cup in Dublin tomorrow, his party confirmed. David Trimble, First Minister of Northern Ireland, and Seamus Mallon, Deputy First Minister, are also expected to be at the match, which has attracted huge interest. Support for the Ulster team crosses the sectarian divide. Mn Monday and

Ulster team crosses the sectarian divide. Mo Mowlam and Mary McAleese, the Irish President, will be in the crowd.

indecent assault

travel expenses in the wake of spate of revelations about ministers spurning subsonic travel to fly by Concorde. The Prime Minister's offi-cial spokesman said the con-

centration of media attention on such issues was becoming "ridiculous" and that it would be up to ministers individually to decide whether to answer such inquiries.

The Treasury stonewalled on claims that Mr Brown had chartered a jet from Africa to Bangkok to travel from a Commonwealth finance ministers meeting to talks on the South East Asian econonic crisis. A spokesman said: "Our ministers take the view that we are not going into detail of travel arrangments, they have to get from A to B frequently all around the world and that is done in the quickest and most efficient way possible."

the Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly.

Interested parties are be-

lieved to have included the

The Treasury's stance was undermined when Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, released a blow-by-blow account of his time in Barbados in November to attend the Common-wealth health ministers meet-ing. Dismissing media inquir-ies as the stuff of gossip, Mr Dobson insisted he was right to attend, swapping thoughts

with his counterparts on containing malaria and Aids. He said: "I travelled business class both ways and staved at the conference hotel. On the trip out, I re-drafted our White Paper on tobacco. I' slept all night on the way back." He added that he had

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left a day early. Mr Dobson's statement was an example of what No 10 promised would be an "aggressive" response to the issue, which had flared into life with tales of high living at five star hotels by Jack Cunningham, the Prime Minister's so-called Cabinet "enforcer".



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SAVILE ROW

# Husband tells of lover's fatal attraction

# 'Jenny grabbed me by the hand and led me upstairs'

THE husband of Kathryn Linaker, who was knifed and blg somed to death by a col-league in a drama society, told a court yesterday of his sex sessions with the woman who killed her.

Chris Linaker, 35, a former computer trainer, said at Chester Crown Court that he fell in love with Jenny Cupit, 24, a fellow actor at a local drama society, and that they enjoyed a passionate relationship for more than a year. They would meet regularly

to have sex at each other's homes in Warrington, Cheshire, in the houses of friends and relatives, in the open air in Delamere Forest and Alton Towers and once in a multi-stoney car park in Blackpool. They filmed themselves in one daytime encounter in a hotel room and, on at least two occasigns, indulged in sexual threesomes, once with Mr Linaker's brother-in-law Neil Alcock while Mrs Linaker was out at work and with Cupit's husband, Nick.

The court heard that Mr Linaker had been pestering his lover to set up a threesome with herself and female friend but this date was abandoned when it clashed with the birth of his second child, Holly.

As the affair continued in a welter of love letters, snatched telephone calls and Valentine cards, Cupit began urging Mr Linaker to leave his wife and two children and run off with her to Canada. He became concerned that she would tell his

Ye about their affair. Cupit, a hairdresser, is alleged to have murdered Mrs Linaker, 33, in a fit of jealous ragé last April at her home in Penketh, Warrington, stabbing and clubbing her to death with a kitchen knife, a carving knife and a heavy bottle.

She denies murdering Mrs Linaker, a deputy headmistress at St James School, in Haydock, and an author of educational guides, but has pleaded guilty to manslaughter due to diminished responsibility, a plea contested by the

Mr Linake told the court, undesquestioning from Alex Carlile. QC. for the prosecution, that it was Cupit who took the

He and his wife, then a sucthe Warrington Centenary Operatic and Dramatic Society. which became the hub of their social lives, through which they met others in their circle, including Nick and Jenny Cupit. The two couples, who both had young children, be-



Chris Linaker, Cupit's lover, videoed their three in a bed sex session in the spare bedroom



came friends. They had known each other for a "few years" before his wife's death, he said. Mr Carlile asked Mr Linaker, who worked as a computer trainer, whether the relationship between his wife and Cupit was one where intimate confidences would be expected to be exchanged. He replied:

Mr Linaker admitted that he began the affair with Cupit early in 1997. She told him that she had feelings for someone in the drama society and, within seconds, had admitted it was him. He insisted that he told her it was not a good idea to take their relationship fur-

Mr Linaker said he first had sex with the young mother of two in January 1997 when he near Warrington, during the day. She had sex in her bed-

"We were talking in the kitchen and Jenny Cupit put her coffee down, grabbed me by the hand and took me upstairs." he said. Mr Carlile observed that "it does not seem as if you protested too much."

They had sex often, more than weekly. They made love at their houses, at the homes of Cupit's in-laws, at her friend home, in the open air in the Delamere Forest, beside the theme park at Alton Towers and once in a multi-storey car park on a day trip to Blackpool. Once Cupit booked a hotel room at the Novotel, off the M6 on the way to Swinton. Manchester, where they met and made love several times.

Mr Linaker admitted that, at his instigation, he videotaped themselves having sex using his father's camera. Mr Carlile asked: "What was Jenny's reaction? Did she raise objection at all?" He reolied: "No." Mr Cartile asked: "Was

there any other occasion when you videoed yourself and Jenny having sexual intercourse together?" "At my home," replied Mr Linaker. "Had she shown any reluctance to have it videoed on that occasion?" "Not at all." Mr Carlile asked: "Did she watch it?" "Yes, with me" The barrister continued: What was her reaction to watching you and her having sexual intercourse?" Mr Linaker replied: "She found it

Cupit, from the dock, interjected: "You liar". Mr Linaker described two occasions when they invited a third man to join them for sex. He said that Cupit made it clear that a threesome was one of her fantasies so he invited his brother-in-law, Neil Alcock, to join

They met on a weekday at his home while Mrs Linaker was working at school. The



Jenny Cupit, accused of murdering her lover's wife, leaving court yesterday. She made first move in an affair that led to death, the jury was told

threesome videoed the hourlong encounter from a camera set up on a tripod in the corner of the spare bedroom. Mr Linaker said Cupit had oral sex with both men. When they replayed the tape, she seemed

to enjoy it, he said. In early 1998 Mr Linaker went to Cupit's home in Warrington for another threesome; this time with her husband Nick. The three had sex while the couple's two children were asleep upstairs. During the relationship she spoke of her desire for him to father her child. She was distressed when her family doctor told her she had miscarried after a short pregnancy. Later, it emerged that Cupit was upset when she discovered Kathryn Linaker was pregnant with baby Holly.Mr Cartile asked:

"Did Jenny ever express feelings towards your wife Kathy? "Yes," replied Mr Linaker. "She was jealous. The main reason was she was my partner. Kathy was the one I went home to, spent weekends with; that sort of

Mr Linaker said that his wife had warned him that she felt Cupit might "move in on him". Once Cupit arrived unannounced at their detached home where she assured Mrs Linaker that she had no such

intention. The conversation left Kathy confused, said Mr

Linaker. Mr Linaker said there had been in incident in an unlit Warrington street in March last year which upset Cupit. She said that she had been attacked by a man who grabbed her from behind, torn her blouse and put his hand down her trousers. He had believed her at first but later was not so sure, he told the court.

Mr Linaker said that he had bought Cupit a vibrator as a sex toy at a shop in Manchester. She appeared thrilled with it, he said, and they had used on a "few occasions".

Mr Linaker said that severweeks before his wife's death Cupit appeared more aggressive and angry.

During cross-examination Adrian Fulford, QC, for the defence, suggested that Mr Linaker was drawn to Cupit for sexual reasons. He described Mr Linaker as a man with a taste for pornography.

videos and sex aids and that he had kept up the affair, right up until the day before his wife's death, for his own sexual gratification."

Mr Linaker agreed that in one card he had written: "To the sexiest, tastiest most unnecessarily insecure woman 1 know and I know you very much, your special friend." Mr Fulford asked: "At the

same time you told her over and over again you loved her, when she asked you seriously if you would leave your family, you didn't answer immediately. You paused before you said no as if you were thinking about it seriously?" "No," replied Mr Linaker. "I paused because I was taken aback."

Mr Carlile asked: "Was it discussed from time to time? Mr Linaker replied: "Regularly in letters she used to send me." The harrister went on: "Did you ever lead her to befieve you would leave your wife?" Mr Linaker said: "No." The trial continues.



Kathy Linaker warned her husband about Cupit

# Art academy's 'public face' blames lover for sacking

'MY FEELINGS ARE MORE THAN SEXUAL'

The jury was shown the only handwritten letter that Mr

It began: "I have finally done it. I have put pen to paper. I

am not sure what to write, of course..." But he goes on to say he loves her, misses her and that she was assured a

special place in his heart: "My feelings for you are more than just sexual," he wrote. "I am sure it should please you

ing of you. I am certainly making up new ways of making love to you in my mind ... in the beginning the thought of somebody like you finding me attractive, I found incredibly

thinking of me doing naughty things to myself while th

erotic. Since then I have grown to love you."

It was signed: "I love you always, Your friend"

sent to his lover, although he received many from

A-PROMOTIONS manager at the Royal Academy of Art was sacked after an affair with her boss ended, an industrial tribunal heard yesterday.

Miriam Sassoon, described as the gallery's public face. was said to have been "bullied and shouted at by Zack Malcolinson.

thiss Sassoon, who was sub-contracted to run promotions for exhibitions at the academy, said that her life was made helf by her former lover. He demeaned her in front of colleagues and gave her a written plained about him, she said.

The 24-year-old was sacked last August for "unprofessional behaviour when she objected to the warning. Her employers say that she started a whispering campaign against Mal-colmson and called him a bastard in front of staff.

Miss Sassoon told the Central London Tribunal that Mr Malcolmson, the academy's ner to apologise to a colleague who had made her cry.



drinks evenings and ignored her views, even when they were conducting joint inter-

her to acquire the guides.



"My brother died that year and I had a few days off work.

She is claiming sexual discrimination against Arts Communications and Technology. which employed her and Mr Malcolmson. The company was used by the Royal Academy to promote its exhibitions and to produce audio guides. Her role was to promote CD-Roms and audio-guides. Visi-tors to exhibitions would see Miss Sassoon said: "When I

first joined the company, Zack

would not speak to me, but he was friendly to everyone else.

He started to talk to me after The couple started a relationship eight months after she joined the company. Miss Sas-soon told the tribunal: "We slept together in Christmas 1997. In late March, Zack and myself went to Amsterdam and, about three weeks later. I ended the relationship because we weren't communicating. We tried to be friends thereafter, but Zack took to igSassoon said, Mr Malcolmson picked faults with everything

"I was shouted at and bullied and told I was behaving unprofessionally. I put in a grievance which was ignored and was given a written warn-ing for unprofessional behav-

"At one point he called me unprofessional in front of staff at the Royal Academy and in front of other promoters, which obviously upset me. It

was bombastic Naomi Ellenbogen, repre-enting Arts Communication and Technology, said: "The reason she got a written warning was for smoking outside the gallery, conducting a whispering campaign against Mr and swearing at him at compa-

ny parties."
She told Miss Sassoon: You were the face of the company which the public first meet when they walk in the gallery. It was essential that you behave in a professional manner."

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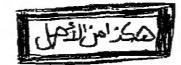
# PC arrested brother in toy feud

A POLICEMAN arrested his brother for swearing after a ten-year disagreement over a rare Dinky toy reached boiling point, a court was told yesterday. PC Roy Lewis-Tatton, 33, arrested his brother Paul, 39, after a row last Octoher. Nottingham magistrates dismissed the case after hearing of the feud. They heard that the pair had hardly spoken since the day Paul Tatton accused Roy, ia toy collector, of trying to trick his son into parting with the valuable toy in exchange for a cheap Action Man. On the night of his arrest, Paul Tat-

ton told the court, PC Lewis Tatton had arrived at his house in Nottingham alleging that he. Paul, had assaulted his 18-year-old son, Carl. The teenager told the court that his uncle had offered to charge his father with assault, but he had declined. He added that his uncle had seemed intent on getting his father charged. "My dad had just been trying to restrain me in the house because of my temper. I was just angry. My father

hadn't really hit me." Paul Tatton said his younger brother then turned to go back to the patrol car. saying that there was a difference between "chastisement and assault" and sonally come and arrest you". Paul said he was arrested after he tried to explain that he had not assaulted his son. At this point, the court heard, PC Lewis-Tatton handcuffed his brother and bundled him into the car, telling him be was being arrested for aggressive and abusive behaviour towards a police officer. Yesterday Paul Tatton said that he believed the row over the Thunderbirds 2 spaceship, worth an estimated £200, was the real reason for his arrest.

Finding Paul Tatton not guilty of using threatening behaviour, magistrates



# Trimble demands action over Collins

Government is urged not to turn a blind eye after IRA informer's murder, reports Martin Fletcher

DAVID TRIMBLE accused the IRA yesterday of breaking its ceasefire by murdering Eamon Collins, the IRA defector. He demanded that the Government take action.

Chief Inspector Eddie Gra-ham, who is leading the mur-der investigation, said that Collins had suffered an "horrendous death". His injuries were so appalling that the police advised his widow, Bernie, not to

view the body.
"It is more akin to a crime indicative of that carried out by primitive cavemen than it is of a society entering the 21st century. It was absolutely dreadful," he said. Collins was killed on a country lane near his home in Newry before dawn on Wednesday. He died from multiple stab wounds and bludgeoning of the head.

"It's fairly clear who murdered him - presumably the

same people who burnt his house and were responsible for the hit-and-run attack on him a couple of years ago, and that is the IRA and particularly the South Armagh IRA," said Mr Trimble, Northern

Ireland's First Minister. This is yet another breach of the ceasefire and I wonder what the Secretary of State is going to say about it . . . It's important the Government. shows through its actions that

it is not turning a blind eye." Mr Trimble would not speci-fy what he wanted the Government to do, but on Wednesday night he backed an unsuccessful Conservative motion to halt terrorist prisoner releases until IRA violence stopped. Other senior Unionists said that the murder had strengthened the case for barring Sinn Fein from government until the IRA began disarming.



Collins: he died from multiple stab wounds -

Mrs Collins told yesterday's Irish News: "They finally got him." Her husband had got up at 4.30am to paint over hos-tile graffiti near their house before taking his dogs for a walk. "I knew when I got up and Eamon wasn't there. I just got a knot in my stomach.

"Although you knew there was always the possibility it could happen, and you felt you were prepared for it, you just can't be ... -We had talked about the escalation in the in-

aimed at him. It was aimed at the whole family.
"We had talked of moving elsewhere, if only for the chil-

Collins, who will be buried today, told the Belfast News Letter the day before his death that he had terminal heart disease. "I don't know what will kill me first — my enemies or my illness," he said. Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's

president, called the murder regrettable".

He said that Collins had "many enemies in many, many many places", but in-sisted that republicans felt no sense of triumph at his killing. Terry Madden, 52, , a charity worker from Monasteraden in Sligo, died from gunshot wounds to his legs yesterday. in what appears to be the first punishment killing in the Irish Republic since the 1994 IRA

In Dungannon, Co Tyrone, a Roman Catholic family escaped injury when a pipe bomb was thrown through their kitchen window.



Michelle Cadwell, left, and Kate Brown get reading as the first books arrive

#### Children see their tokens bear fruit

By HANNAH BETTS

THE first delivery in the Free: Books for Schools scheme was met with delight at Westcroft Special School in Wolverhampton yesterday. Children mobbed the delivery man and tore open the boxes in a race to be first to their new books.

Sue Commander, the school's literacy co-ordinator, said: "Now that they're all pulling together to collect tokens, our children think of reading as a real pleasure."

Most of the tokens have come from the children themseives. Pupils are keen to gather up tokens from their parents' newspapers, many coming in with fistfuls at a time. James Lawrence, 12, said:



The books you are giving us are better than we had before and more fun in lessons. We are doing more reading every her pupils had been swept into a collecting frenzy after their appearance in The Times earlier this month for being the first school to place an order. Since then, Westcroft has amassed 3,000 tokens.

Can your school beat the token-saving total of Westcroft? Call The Times Free Books for Schools hotline and tell us about your school's progress on 0171-895-9018 (office hours only). Throughout February, 223 Asda stores will be doubling all Free Books for Schools tokens as customers pass through the checkout.

Token, page 49

#### has already pleaded not guilty to the murders of four former Killer gets life A killer trapped by his earprints was jailed for lifeby an Old Bailey judge for raping and strangling Yvonne Killian, 22, in Erith, 36, had listendon. Karl Stirk, 26, had listendon.

tened at a window before breaking into her flat. Pots of money

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trial date

for murder

charge GP

A family doctor charged with killing eight female patients was yesterday committed for

was yesterday communestrial on two alleged municipal Harold Shipman, 52, of Spiram in Longdendale, Gracer Manchester, is charged with

murdering Jean Lilley, 59, in April 1997, and Irene Turner, 67, in July 1996.

He is scheduled to appear at

Manchester Crown Court on

March I for a plea and direc-tions hearing on all the charg-es against him. Mr Shipman, who has a practice in Hyde.

A collection of more than 120 cookery books dating from the early 1600s fetched £59,000 at Sotheby's in London. It included a rare, 1861 first edition of Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management. which sold for £1,200.

#### Doorstep killing A teenager shot dead after an-

swering the door may have been mistaken for another man. Leon McKinlay, 18, of Old Trafford, Manchester. was hit several times in the chest. Police said victim may have known the real target.

Protester evicted

Margaret Jones, 49, the university lecturer who gave up her job to join anti-roads protesters, has been evicted from a warehouse where she was sin-gle-handedly holding up work on the £30 million Avon ring road at Warmley, near Bristol.

#### Carey's mission

The Archbishop of Canterbury is in Damascus for the first visit by a head of the Anglican Church to Syria. "I am car vinced the world needs extendeepening relationships between Christianity and Islam." Dr George Carey said.

#### Meningitis death

Paul Caffrey, 12, has died after contracting meningitis on an adventure training course in North Wales. Seventeen fellow pupils from Widnes, Cheshire, who shared his dormitory are receiving antibiotics.

#### Hands on chief

Norman Bettison, 42, the Chief Constable of Merseyside, leapt from his official after an awards ceremony to chase and help to arrest a suspected thief that he saw fleeing from a shop's security guard.

#### Chilly landing:

Shetland bird-lovers hope to send a cattle egret, which has been found 2,000 miles north of its usual habitat, back to the Algarve. The birds have visited southern England, but have never been seen in Shetland.

#### CORRECTION

Yale University's collection British art was donated Paul Mellon, and not by Paul Getty as stated in an article (January 27) on Denver Art

#### Lloyds Bank Mortgage Rate for **Personal Customers**

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Antonio Banderas as the avenging bandit and Sir Anthony Hopkins as Zorro in the 1998 film The Mask of Zorro

# Inquisition unmasks Zorro as Irishman

AN ITALIAN historian has found new evidence in the secret archives of the Holy Inquisition unmasking the origi-nal Zorro, the dashing hero of countless swashbuckling films set against the background of rebellion against Spanish rule in Mexico and California.

In the latest film, a box office for starring Sir Anthony Hop-kins, Antonio Banderas and Catherine Zeta-Jones, Zorro is a Spanish aristocrat who leads

But according to Fabio Troncarelli, Professor of History at Viterbo University, there is detailed proof in the closely guarded inquisition archives which the Vatican has gradually begun to make more freely available to scholars - that the real Zorro, a masked swordsman who evades capture and inspires downtrodden Mexicans with the hope of independence, was an Irishman from Wexford called Wil-

ham Lamport. Professor Troncarelli said Tiere were "copious references" in the secret archives to Lamport, who was born in Ireland in 1615 and died at the stake in Mexico City in 1659. "He led a double life like Zorro, and had a thick red beard and flashing eyes," Professor Troncarelli, said. "He was quite a womaniser, and led a life even more adventurous than anything the screenwrit-

ers have dreamt up." Professor Troncarelli, 50, said he had spent half his life investigating the Zorro myth, using papers held in Madrid, Dublin, Rome and Mexico

buried in the records of the trials of suspected heretics and subversives conducted by the Inquisition," he said. "They were meticulous. The name of

fame as a popular hero in Cen-tral America was "still reverberating in the 19th century, 200 years after his death

According to the Inquisition records, Lamport was born into a "noble Irish family" and was educated by Jesuits in Dublin and London. But he ran away to sea after allegedly bicing anti-English sentients and fell in with a gang of pirates. Still in his early nties, Lamport arrived in

called Guillen Lombardo but leads a double life as a noble-New evidence traces swashbuckling Wexford ladies' man to Mexico

via Spain, Richard Owen writes

Lamport did not metamor

phise into Zorro until 1872,

when Vicente Palacio Riva, a

retired Mexican general, tried his hand at "an historical ro-

mance in the style of Dumas's

Three Musketeers entitled The

The hero of the book is

Memoirs of an Impostor.

man named Diego de la Vega,

plotting by night with a "secret society" to "overthrow Span-ish rule and the power of the

Like the real Zorro, De la

Vega is also betrayed in the

en. In 1919 Johnston McCul-

ky, a New York journalist, re-

worked the tale, giving Diego

de la Vega his famous mask, and the following year the first

film, The Mark of Zorro, star-

ring Douglas Fairbanks, ap-

Spain, where he Hispanicised gle himself with the rope used nis name to "Guillen Lombarto tie him to the stake."

He fought in Spain's 17th-century wars against the French, and his bravery and skill came to the attention of the Duke of Olivares, chief minister, until 1643, at the court of Philip IV of Spain. (who reigned from 1621-1665). At 25 Lamport, who had be

gun to acquire a reputation as a ladies man as well as a swordsman, was sent by Olivares to Mexico to escape a scandal after he had seduced and abandoned a Spanish

It was in Mexico City that Lamport, or "Lombardo", per-fected his double life. Officially he moved in the highest circles and became engaged to a noblewoman called Antonia Turcios: But he had many other lovers, acted as a spy for Olivares, and assumed a false identity to befriend local Indian tribes, learning their heal-ing skills and "dabbling in as-

It was this which eventually brought him to the attention of against Spain to liberate the In-dians and the black slaves and set himself up as king of an in-dependent Mexico".

He spent ten years in prison dragged on, but like Sir Antho-

cipe, always keeping tine step ahead of his pursuers, as He even returned to Mexico City, emerging from his hiding place at night to plaster the city Lamport kept coming up. walls with posters mocking the He said that Lamports Inquisition and revealing its se-

Lamport's luck ran out he-cause of his "inability to resist a pretty wiman", Professor Troncarelli told Corriere della Sera. According to a letter dar-Mexico to Philip IV, who about the hunt for "Lomberdo, he was found in bed with the wife of Marquis Lope Diez de Cadéreyta, the Viceroy of Mexico.

Lamport was jailed for a further seven years and then con-demned to burn at the stake. But he cheated the Inquisition carelli said. Before the flames were lit, he managed to stran-



Professor Troncarelli, a devotee of the Zorro myth.

### Dublin scholar disputes theory

BY AUDREY MAGEE ... IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

AN IRISH historian last night confirmed the existence of Wilhiam Lamport but was scenti-cal of the claims made about his life by the Italian scholar. Declan Downey, a history ecturer at University College Dublin, dismissed sugges-tions that Lamport was a swashbuckling youth who went to see to escape English port was born into an affinent irish family but grew up in

of the royal court. wealthy landowning family on the ountkirts of Wexford. They like the happing under British "What this Italian man has come up with is very interestivated backen demanded that ing but I must admit to being this backens are a little market being by the standard comment. Fish Indowners convert to a little scepical about his re-From things of Many families, search and would like to read middling the Lampons, re- it myself, said Dr Downey.

Spain as an honorary member

belled and sided with Catholic Spain in the Battle of Kinsale

The Spaniards, backed by the Irish defeated the British.

Many Irish, including the
Lamports, fled Ireland and took up refuge in Spain where they were granted entry to the royal court. Many were given honorary titles. Some travelled further and went to

South America. Dr Downey believes that rule. Dr Downey's research William Lamport, the man suggests that the young Lamnow labelled as Zorro, spent much of his childhood in Spain with his emigrant par-ents. He may have returned to Ireland to be educated by Jes-The Lamports were a uits in Dublin, a common prac-





Faces of Zorro: A portrait of William Lamport, and Tyrone Power in the 1940 Hollywood film The Mark of Zorro

# **New Banking and Savings** Interest Rates from Nationwide

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# How they kept the prying lenses out

FOR years, the only pictures in newspaper libraries of the Prince of Wales and Camilla Parker Bowles together have been images from another

She was Miss Camilla Shand then, and he a bachelor naval officer with a penchant for polo when on shore leave. Their brief romance in the 1970s is immortalised in a picture of them gazing lovingly at each other in a break between chukkas, standing by a stout oak tree suitably carved with other lovers' initials.

There are pictures, too, of the Prince as godfather at the christening of the Parker Bowleses' son, Tom, but they are merely family snapshots without sexual chemistry or con-

cealed agenda. When their resumed relationship, now between two married people, became common knowledge in the 1990s. they went to enormous lengths to conceal it from prying lenscameraman snapped them climbing into a Range Rover ether at Balmoral.

They confined themselves largely to Gloucestershire and the safety of Highgrove. But in October 1995 they suddenly adopted a high-risk strategy by jointly attending a 50th birthday party at the Ritz for Mrs Parker Bowles's friend Lady Sarah Keswick. They were careful, however, to arrive and leave separately; neither was yet divorced.

Photographers thought their best chance of catching the couple together was at the Beaufort Hunt, of which both were enthusiastic members. But the Prince and Mrs Parker Bowles developed a com-plex and carefully planned rit-ual; she would attend in the early part of the day and canter away to lunch. Within an hour, the Prince would appear for an afternoon's sport.

Mrs Parker Bowles has been remarkably tolerant of



The picture that immortalised their early romance the Prince and Camilla Shand at Windsor Great Park

now have more than enough pictures of her on her own.

When the Prince held a 50th birthday party for Mrs Parker Bowles in 1997, he remained safely within his own four walls. But cameramen waiting at the gate were given a surprising amount of co-opera-tion by police and security men to photograph the star guest's arrival.

There seemed, for a time, a. discreet campaign to intro-

mally to the public. In April 1997 she hosted a charity event for the National Osteoporosis Society and allowed Hello! magazine to photograph her there in return for a hefty donation. But then Diana, Princess of Wales died in a Paris underpass, and everything was put on ice for a long time to come.

When she returned the previous year's compliment and hosted Charles's 50th birthday party at Highgrove last No-vember, she again made sure that her car slowed to a crawl

to allow the cameramen a good view of her revealing green silk and velver outfit. her dazzling hairdo, and her sapphire and diamond jewel-

A few days earlier, she had attended a birthday function for the Prince at Hampton. Court Palace, and although she danced with her beau in front of his sons, she came and went with the utmost discretion by a side entrance.

couple attended the society wedding of Santa Palmer-Tomkinson at a North London syn-agogue. They arrived half an hour apart, sat in different rows during the service, and left in separate motorcades for the same destination — a reception at the Ritz. Once again the photographers were cheated of the one picture to die for, the one with a guaranteed sale to newspapers and magazines around the world. Once again,



# Dirty Bertie' was spared the tabloids

IT WAS a mistress, they say, who killed Prince Albert (Alan Hamilton writes). Not. needless to say, his own, but the first horizontal acquaint-ance of his son Berne, the Prince of Wales and future Ed-

ward VII.
Bertie had been sent to Dub-Bertie had been sent to Dub-lin in 1861 for gunnery train-ing, but discovered instead the delights of a warm Irish ac-tress. When he was ordered back to his rooms at Trinity College, Cambridge, his father took the train to give lum the talking to of his life, caught a dose of typhoid fever, and was dead at the see of 47. dead at the age of 42.

His son proceeded to a long and diverting career on the chaise longue. At his corona-tion in 1902 he invited several of his ex-mistresses to witness the event from a balcony in Westminster Abbey which the press duly christened "Ed-ward's loose box".

The upper classes knew all about Bertie's liaisons with Alsee Keppel, Lily Langtry, the Countess of Warwick and the rest, and the word filtered down through society. But the tabloid press had not yet been invented in its present form, and the technology to print photographs in newspapers did not exist.

Edward VII had the good for-tune to have an understanding wife in Queen Alexandra, who would never have dreamt of whingeing to the media about an overcrowded marriage. Be-sides, he was an avuncular fellow, admired for taking care of his past amours long after the

Not only did the press draw

sions, they politely declined to mention Edward's other, and stranger, peccadillo. He was extraordinarily fond of chasing fire engines, and had a deal with the captain of the London Fire Brigade who would inform him as soon as a big blaze had been reported in the capital. The heir to the ing with the hoses at dead of night, much as the present Prince of Wales used to make secret midnight visits to the capital's homeless.

The case of Edward VIII was altogether different, because his relationship with Mrs Simpson became much more politicised. The British press, led by Beaverbrook's onenipotent Daily Express and by the hugely influential Times, maintained a conspiracy of silence over the King's affair.

The foreign press, however, were having a field day. When Mrs Simpson's divorce petition was moved from London to Ipswich in the hope that no one would notice the hearing, British newspapers blandly reported a list of names, while one American journal shouted from a ban-ner headline: "King's Moll Reno'd In Wolsey's Home

passion had died.

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While the present Prince of Wales has been at pains to keep his relationship with Alice Keppel's great-great-grandpredecessor did much to push Mrs Simpson to the fore. When she visited Balmoral her name, at his insistence, ap-



Edward VIII and Walkis Simpson: treated discreetly







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VCARE INTERNATIONAL

Korda in Spice girls of tennis take a beating legal fight. Spice girls of tennis take a beating to escape ban over drug test

By JOHN GOODBODY SPORTS NEWS

PETR KORDA, the Crech tennis star, should not be forced to defend himself rwice against deping allegations the High Court in London

was told yesterday. Korda, the 1998 Australian Open champion, wants Mr-Justice Lightman to stop the International Termis Federa-tion appealing against the de-cision of a tribunal not to ban him. The player tested posi-tive for an anabolic steroid after losing to Tim Hennan at Wimbledon last year. The Czech player, who was

not in court, escaped a one-year ban in December when the committee, appointed by elimstances". Korda claimed that he did not know how the drug was present in his urine sample, an explanation that allowed him to get off on a

technicality.

The federation wants to impose a ban by taking the case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, which deals with complex drugs is sues. Korda, who had been injured before Wimbledon, was found positive for nandrolone, the same steroid found last week in the urine of Dougie Walker, the European

100

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200 metres champion.
Charles Flint, QC, for Korda, said that the federation. dinder its own doping regula-tions, had no right in law to appeal against the decision, which was "linal and binding" on both sides. "We say that argument is incompatible with the wording of the anti-

doping programme. The programme is designed to provide for speedy and final determination of dispotes as to allegations of doping before an independent exexpected to give his vertica



Martina Hingis, the next to take on Mauresmo

Career: 19 Grand Slam singles titles lega: \$8,363,496 (£5.1 million) Coach her mother, Melanie Mothor, former Czech No 10 Hubbles: Sking, kding, reflecteding, secces, bas





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Bitter spice: Kournikova, left, Dokic and Pierce cannot match Mauresmo's power

The pretty young things are finding it tough against a hard-hitting newcomer, reports Alix Ramsay

THIS season was supposed to her-ald the age of the tennis Spice Girls, but after just a fortnight their supremacy is being threatened by ten

stone of muscle. Two weeks ago four bright young Lycra-clad things began the Australian Open. Their leader, Martina Hingis, declared that she and Anna Kournikova were the Spice Girls of tennis. The shapely figures of Venus Williams and Mary Pierce have been similarly touted as giving women's tennis as-tonishing pulling power, along with the rising star Jelena Dokic, 15, of Australia.

Now only one of the band remains: Hingis will tomorrow defend her title against the relatively unknown and formidably built Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo.

The 19-year-old does not quite fit the new mould of women's tennis. But with shoulders that a prop forward would pay money for, there are very few moulds built to accom-modate her athletic form.

In the semi-finals she overwhelmed Davenport - and, at 6ft 21/sin and 121/st, the American world No! takes some whelming. Mauresmo was too strong, too quick and too determined for one of the most powerful strikers of the

Packing a

ball in the women's game.

Then again, she had the confidence. When asked about the possibility of facing either Davenport or Williams - the other muscular force on the WTA Tour - she announced that she was "the same as them or maybe better".

Davenport was not happy. "The shoulders look huge to me," she said. "A couple of times I thought I was playing a guy she was hitting it so hard. Women's tennis isn't normally played like that."

The chances are, however, that women's tennis will increasingly be played like that, and no one should be less surprised than Davenport.

When Hingis headed for the No 1 spot she did it with nous. Not particularly big or powerful, Hingis thought faster than anyone else could run. Having been trounced, the opposition retreated, regrouped and learned to run that little bit

Starting to believe in herself, Davenport lost weight, got fit and over-took Hingis. Now Mauresmo has done the same thing to her and Dav-

enport is not happy. Not that such bickering is new in tennis. Margaret Court's emer-gence was greeted with many a raised eyebrow. Tall, athletic and with a penchant for lifting weights, she scythed through the field to claim 24 Grand Slam singles titles, a record that still stands. When Christine Truman, Britain's 1961 Wimbledon finalist, encountered the all-conquering Australian, she mused on the masculinity of

Court's aggressive game. Twenty years later, Hana Mandlikova had a stand-up row with the muscular Martina Navratilova. Walloped at the French Open, Mandlikova claimed it was "difficult playing against a man — I mean Martina". It took four months and an abject apology before the two

were back on speaking terms. Not that Mauresmo cares what anyone else thinks: in fact, she re-gards Davenport's comments as something of a compliment. "The fact that I'm strong physically is

maybe impressing her," she said. The world junior champion in 1996. Mauresmo found the step up to the senior game hard. It was, she said, as much mental as physical dealing with the increased workload and the pressure of chasing world-ranking points. So, she learnt how to work harder.

She left the French Federation in 1997 and got herself a new coach in Warwick Bashford. When he took her so far but no further last year. he was replaced by Christophe Fournerie.

Mauresmo has stated her intention and that is to get to the top. Her spare time is spent pumping iron to make her the strongest player on the circuit and "the one who stays longest on the court". Even her private life is an open book - she lives with her girlfriend in St Tropez.

Now Mauresmo must try to beat Hingis for the first time and even the ever-confident Hingis admits that she has "a winning record but not a very easy one". Like Navratilova v Evert or Seles v Graf, it is a case of brawn against brain, power against finesse. Maybe the marketing men have something to work

Sport, page 56



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# agged Violent creed of bouncer turned cleric

### Muslims disown fanatic who shames their faith

By STEPHEN FARRELL

THE fundamentalist preacher accused by Yemen of organising terrorist attacks from his London mosque was condemned by Islamic leaders yesterday for tarnishing the image of the Muslim community

with his support for violence. Abu Hamza al-Masri - not his real name — was accused of adopting the title "sheikh" to imply religious qualifications that he does not have and of using his new-found notorety to influence impressiona-

Egyptian-born Hamza, 41, used to work as a nightclub bouncer and bodyguard and had an illegitimate child be-

Arrested: Hamza's son, Muhammad Kamil Mustapha

fore gaining British citizen-ship in 1985 and embracing religion. He claims to have studied civil engineering in Brighton in the early 1980s, but there is no record of that.

Hamza runs Supporters of Shariah, an extremist group dedicated to the rule of Islamic law, by mobile telephone and the internet, where he attracted attention by offering military training on Web pages depicting a handgrenade.

He preaches at Finsbury Park Mosque in North London on the need to raise good Muslim families. His own son, Muhammad Kamil Mustapha, 17, was arrested in Yem-

in Afghanistan, now lives in West London. He has a son by another woman, claims disability benefit and moves between addresses. One, a terrace council house in Shepherds Bush, is distinctive for its shabby ap-pearance and rubbish-strewn

en this week suspected of plot-

ting to bomb British targets.

says that she has never seen

him since Hamza, then known

as Mustapha Kamil, persuad-

ed her to let him take their son

to visit his grandparents in

1984, he was not a radical until

things went "wrong" and he

"started to get more into reli-

gion". They divorced and Hamza, who claims to have

lost his hands and an eye clear-

ing mines with the Mujahidin

Valerie, who refused to reveal her surname, said that, when she married Hamza in

Egypt 12 years ago.

The boy's mother, Valerie,

frustrated at the opprobrium Hamza and other fundamentalist advocates of violence have brought on their community from those who know littie of Islam except the extremist views they read in newspapers or hear on television.

Hamza supports a holy war to create a worldwide Islamic state. He admits having been in contact with the leader of the group that kidnapped 16 Westerners in Yemen, although he denies planning

He also admits previous contact with the extremist Armed Islamic Group, widely be-lieved to have carried out massacres in Algeria, but says he has since distanced himself

Zaki Badawi, principal of the Muslim College in West London, said there was no question of Harnza having at-tended any of the important religious centres, such as al-Azhar in Cairo, which confer meaningful religious titles. 'Anybody can call them-



Hamza preaches at a London mosque, but fellow Muslims say they are shocked by a gospel of terrorism that runs contrary to the Koran

Park, he is a controversial fig-

ure. Adam Abdullah, a worker

at the Muslim Information

Centre less than a hundred

yards away, chooses to wor-

selves a sheikh. He has no

ve know of," he said. "The Muslim community is very alarmed. The feeling is that he is giving a repulsive im-age of Islam. I get so many calls asking me how can we silence this man, but you cannot. It is a democracy.

"He is a complete nobody but anybody making extreme statements like this and looking as appalling as he does attracts people."

Iqbal Sacranie, secretary-

general of the Muslim Council of Britain, deplored "fringe elements" granted a high profile. for controversial views which

ain's two million Muslims. "What really concerns us is when they talk about killing innocent people, hostage-taking and terrorism. This is not what the Koran teaches and the sort of messages they put out shock the Muslim community It is dangerous be-

cause it creates divisions." Up to 1,000 people are said to attend Hamza's weekly prayer sessions, after which donations are made. It is not uncommon for Muslim businessmen to make single donations of £5,000 to their local mosques. Hamza charges £1: and £5 for audio and video cas-

Even around Finsbury

ship at a tiny mosque adjoin-

him but some of the things

gauged from two young wor-shippers who gave him their ing his shop instead of Ham-

He is giving a repulsive image of

Islam. I get many calls asking how

we can silence him, but we cannot?

agree with. We do not support

terrorist actions at all," he

However, the strength of Hamza's support could be

Zaidoon Aburejelli, 17, a Pales-tinian, said: "He teaches us the way of Allah, he does not preach about terrorism. It is wrong what they say about

not like it that so many police come here. How would you like it if somebody went into a church and bothered you when you were praying?

Toulik, who has prayed at Finsbury Park for a year, said: "Abu Hamza is a good man. He speaks the Koran. What is a terrorist? A terrorist is a man shooting a gun. Abu Hamza does not have any hands. He

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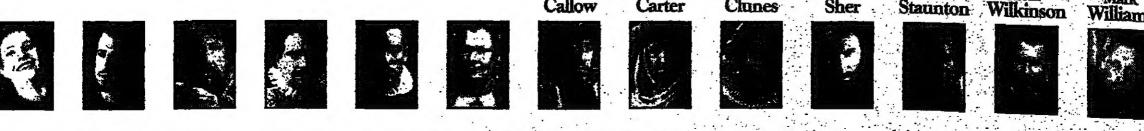
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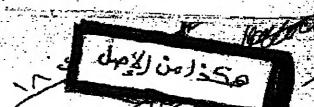
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SHAKESPEARE IN L



At Cinemas Across The Country From Today



Prisoners like feeling of freedom

and the Home Office will like

the savings, reports Adrian Lee

AT 10am yesterday Simon Hart should have been carrying out menial prison chores. Instead he was climbing into his brother's BMW and making plans to celebrate as he became one of 57 inmates to be released early under a tagging

For the remaining 60 days of his sentence Hart, 31, must wear the device on his ankle. He is free to work and socialise by day but if he breaks a 7pm to 7am curiew, his tag will alert the authorities.

"It is a bit like having a ball and chain," said Hart, a window cleaner from Sandhurst, Berkshire, "But my freedom is all that matters."

In the next 12 months it is estimated that 30,000 prisoners erving the final stretches of sentences of between three months and four years will be tagged. Hart, who was serving a 15-month sentence at High

Down prison, near Sutton, Surrey, for possessing cannabis, was accepted for tagging after completing five months and two weeks

and two weeks.

The scheme's cost of £35 million a year will easily be offset by savings made from reducing the overcrowded prison population, according to the Home Office.

"Anything that gives me a chance to get out of here is a good idea." Hart said. The way I look at it is that it is really no different to wearing a watch. It means that I can watch television when I want, have a bath when I want and not have anyone ordering me about for 60 days when I should be in prison." He said he felt no stigma wearing the tag, which can be hidden be-

The Home Office said the tags were waterproof and will not interfere with any lei-

neath trousers.

HOW THE DEVICES WORK

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Select in the North of England SSSC to the North of England SSSC to the South of England SSSC to the South of England SSSC to the South of the South of the England State of the South of the England State of the State of the Midden State of the England State of the State of the Midden State of the England State of the State of th

sure activity". "I might even go swimming," Hart said. "I don't care who sees it."

Pilot schemes in Manchester, Noriolk and Berkshire were not entirely successful, although eight out of ten prisoners did comply. But Mr Hart said he was confident he would not reoffend and did not believe the strictures of the curfew would be too difficult to bear. "I have reached the age

when I don't mind staying in at night watching TV. My free-

to mess it up."
Yesterday, after giving brief interviews at the prison gates, he was driven to his brother's home for a family reunion. After celebrating with a can of lager, he met his probation officer at 12.30pm, then travelled to his parents' home, where he will spend the curiew. On a

dom means too much for me

typical prison day he would have been woken at 7am, eaten breakfast in his single cell and begun prison work, helping a maintenance team, before 9am. After lunch, between 12.15pm and 2pm, he would return to work before again being locked in his cell at 4.45pm. From 5.45pm, until prisoners are secured for the night at 8.30pm, he would have been permitted to watch television and associate with other prisoners. During that time he might also have taken

Mr Hart's stable family background and the offer of regular work helped him to secure one of the first places on the scheme, called Home Detention Curfew. More than half the prisoners who applied for tagging at High Down, where there are 775 immates of categories A to C, were refused following risk assessment checks. The final decision is made by the prison governor and anyone charged with a crime while wearing a tag is liable to recall. To become eligible, prisoners must have a permanent home address.



Simon Hart leaving prison yesterday, on his way to celebrate freedom with a lager

#### Inquiry on Branson's Chinese trespass

By HELEN RUMBELOW

RICHARD BRANSON'S illegal balloon crossing of China is being investigated by the Civil Aviation Authority after a complaint by Beiling.

a complaint by Beijing.

"The British Embassy in Beijing received a formal complaint from the Chinese Government on January 14, which we have passed on to the CAA," the Foreign Office said.

The authority, which has the power to revoke licences, said it was looking into the ICO Global Challenger's tres-

will Whitehorn, spokesman for Mr Branson, said that Virgin was confident it would be experiented by the CAA. The letter merely says that the Chinese are upset that we didn't land, but the crew wouldn't have survived a landing in the Himalayas." he said.

Himalays," he said.
"The Chinese were very helpful. But this to circumstances with the winds, we missed their co-ordinates of entry."

China's decision to deny entry into its airspace has left
three other balloon projects—
including the all-British Cable
and Wireless team—in a predicament. They have only two
weeks before the jet streams
that could catapult them
around the world break up.

#### Drivers tell of rising road rage

By STEWART TENDLER

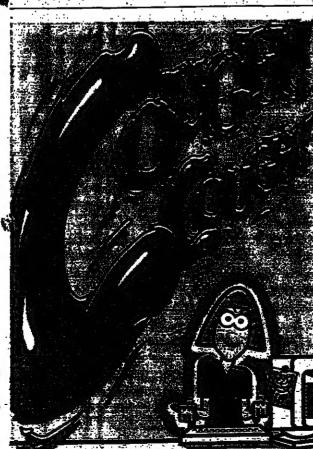
MORE than half of London car-users have encountered "road rage" in the past year, according to a survey by Scotland Yard published yester-

day.

The poll of more than 4,000 drivers and passengers found that 53 per cent reported incidents of aggression, including 41 per cent who said they had been insulted or gestured at Eight per cent had been forced to pull over or been driven off the road. Four per cent said that a driver had got out of his vehicle and threatened them.

People aged between 35 and 54 suffered the most incidents: 69 per cant of men and 62 per cent of winner reported cases. Those over 55 were the least likely to encounter road rage, it was the first time that the

It was the first time that the Yard had included questions on road rage in its annual survey of public attitudes and concerns. Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner suggested that many of the incidents could be attributed to frustration at traffic congestion in the capital. He said that police supported the creation of a London-wide authority and an elected mayor partly because this would bring coordination to traffic planning.



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# **DIAMOND'S**

**Diary of Courage** 

'If I'd any idea what the last 20 months would be like I would have asked them to nick my jugular with a scalpel'

The Saturday

**Times** 

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Why Banks is wary of envoys bearing gifts

WHEN Tony Banks became Sports Minister, he was unprepared for the torrent of cheap gifts handed over by visiting ministers and officials. Mounds of scarves, ties, mugs and other sporting memora-bilia adorn the shelves of his office at the Department of Cul-

ture, Media and Sport. Interviewed by Radio 4 about the "gifts for favours" scandal enveloping the Inter-national Olympic Committee, Mr Banks bemoaned the culture of present-giving that per-

meates politics and sport.
His office off Trafalgar
Square, he told the *Today* programme, was full of bric-abrac and "anyone is welcome to come along and have a look at it". The Times took up the invitation and examined the booty that gives rise to his title of the Government's King of

Mr Banks's 18 months of ministerial experience has left him with more than 50 gifts. Under Whitehall rules, ministers can keep gifts worth less than £140. If they want to keep anything worth more, they must pay the difference. If the minister does not want a gift.



Banks: finds swapping presents "embarrassing"

it is kept in store and sold several years later. When Mr Banks's officials

were asked if any of his gifts ex-ceeded £140, they smirked and said: "See for yourself." Although the minister would never say it, the quality is, well, mixed. "All this is very unlikely to find its way to my home," he admitted. Everything I have got is there in my room." He finds the custom an awk-

ward one. "I am vaguely em-barrassed by these presents. There is an enormous exchange of tokens that people feel obliged to do, and no one knows how to stop it.

"If you do not reciprocate. you feel that you will be consid-

turns the favours with House of Commons gifts — cufflinks. make-up compacts and whisky glasses — and the National Portrait Gallery's book of Sporting Heroes, "It is a process completely like sending Christmas cards: you wish it had never started in the first

Rarely do-ministers receive gifts worth more than £140. and often they prove problem-atic. Sir George Young, known as the bicycling baron-et, was given more bikes than he knew what to do with while Minister of Transport in the

last Government.
When John Major was Prime Minister, he was given a horse by President Niyazov of Turkmenistan for his 50th birthday in 1993. The three year-old cost remained in Turkmenistan for many months as officials struggled to organise its journey to Britain. The delay angered the President and much diplomatic embarrass-ment ensued.

After a long and tortuous journey via Moscow, the stal-lion reached Britain in 1994. It proved too small and unruly for duties with the Household Cavalry and is being looked after by a breeder.



"The quality is, well, mixed": James Landale with "the King of Tack's" memorabilia

### From black belt to wooden brick. isis ahead

NOT surprisingly, football predominates in Mr Banks's collection (James Landale writes). As a fanatical Chelsea supporter, he has a team shirt hung on the wall. Near by is a

painting commemorating
Chelsea's 1997 FA Cop success, signed by the team.
He has football pennants
from Uruguay. Costa Rica
and Malta, and scarves representing teams from Argentina to Northampton A match ball from the France '98 World

Cup sits on his shelves. One of his tackiest ties is a bright yellow garment sup-porting Manchester's hid to hold the 2002 Commonwealth Games. A cheap tin model of an old-fastnoned sailing barque from Malia's M chester United supporters'.

club is also displayed. The only gift Mr Banks has received from the Olympic authorities is a small brass figurine of a male torso, rippling

with stomach muscles.

His greatest haul came from last year's visit to the 13th Asian Games in Bangkok. He was given a model sailing dingly with a blue

plastic sail bearing an ele-phant, the official mascot, and a truly horrible blue tie. He also received a delightful gold-plated ceremonial key from the Governor of Bang-

kok, Bhichit Rattakul. A wooden figure of a horse, given by a Fifa executive in Mali, is probably the most attractive item. Known as a chiwara, the horse promises good health and spurits.

One gift is simply a wooden brick, from the Argentine Junior Athletic Association in 1997. bearing the motto: Mens sand in corpore sano. He has a wooden and brass shield from Qatar, a papier maché owi from Japan, a tableau of a house under a tree in Costa Rica, and a gold-plate and glass plaque marking the tenth anniversary of the Saudi-Brit-

belt in tackwondo. The minister has, of course, never done

a high kick in his life.

hortag transp trgery

MAL 2 NIGHT OF

standing for youth and sport. Perhaps the most surpris-ing object is a threatening looking black belt. A certifi-cate declares that Mr Banks is an honorary Third Dan black-



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Over 1,000 people are now reported dead with over 1,500 injured following the worst earthquake to hit Colombia in 60 years. Authorities say the figure will rise because emergency services, already stretched, have not yet been able to reach people buried alive in rural areas.

Emergency teams have been joined by local survivors to shift tons of rubble with their bare hands. Whilst the major issue now is search and rescue there will, in the coming weeks, be a desperate need for emergency relief. Seventeen towns in the Armenia area of Colombia

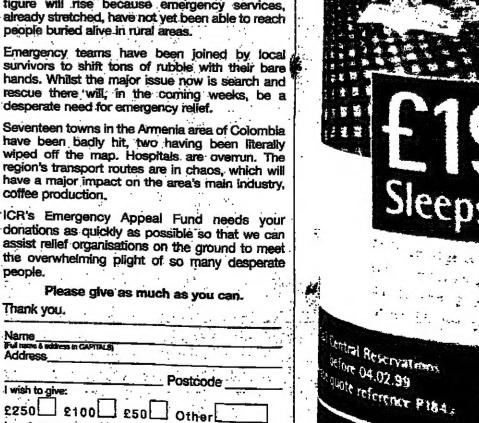
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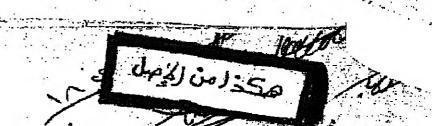
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# Shortages put transplant surgery at risk

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE future of organ trans-plants is threatened by a grow-ing shortage of donors and spe-cialists capable of doing the like saving operations, the Royal College of Surgeons of Eng-

land says in a report today.
Transplantation is now the preferred treatment for most cases of major organ failure and waiting lists are growing all the time, but the number of egans available is diminishing, while surgeons in training are showing less interest in making a career in this highly

Sir Peter Morris, Nuffield Professor of Surgery at Oxford University, who chaired the working party that drew up report, said: "It is not an exexerction to say that the prosion of organ transplantatien as a service is on a knife-- the two major problems being an inadequate supply of organs to meet the de-mand and an acute shortage of transplant surgeons."

The most recent figures show that there were 4,526 paitents waiting for kidneys, 172 for livers, 196 for hearts, 99 for heart and lung, and 187 for

The shortage among organ donors is partly due to the redeaths over the past two decades. They have fallen by 2,000 a year to about 3,700. In addition, the number dying of brain haemorrhage has fallen by 3,000 a year over the same period. People who die in this way are the largest source of

donated organs. The shortage among surgeons is largely due to their anti-social working hours and the fact that the operations, although highly complex, have become so routine that they give poor job satisfaction and little kudos.

Most donors are accident victims or patients who die in intensive care units and by the time their organs can be removed and the recipient made ready for the operation it is usually very late in the day. More than 98 per cent of heart transplant operations take place after midnight

The high level of nocturnal activity makes it difficult for surgeons to maintain the same workload as they grow older," the report says. "Moreover, now that surgical techniques are well refined, the time has passed when reputations could be built on the service aspects of transplant surgery."

of organs are now being taken from older people. Those have less chance of working successfully, which also discourages young surgeons. Trainees tend to view transplantations at hest as a part but not a central part of their career com-

Kidney transplant surgeons have least job satisfaction. Their work is so specialised that they often cannot do other operations. There are 67 consultants doing kidney tran-plants but students are dropping out of courses. A recent study showed that 40 per cent of students studying kidney transplantation decided not make it a career. The specialty is so understaffed that those doing it usually have to work one night in two.

Liver transplant surgeons do a range of other types of related surgery and have greater job satisfaction. There are, however, only 22 of them.

The report calls for the creation of a national transplant service to oversee the way in which organs are collected and sent to recipients. It wants to see one specialist kidney unit set up to cover each two million of the population, and a special advisory group creat-



Beth Wagstaff, who died peacefully at home surrounded by her family after a long battle against breast cancer. Her funeral takes place today

### Founder of breast cancer trust dies

BETH WAGSTAFF, who founded a breast cancer charity in memory of a friend, has died from the illness at the age of 39. She was discharged from hospital last Friday and died at 7am yesterday at her home in Hertford.

Her family were at her bedside. Jon Lansman, 41, her husband, said: "She died peacefully and was calm right up until the end. I was with her all night and her parents and brothers were there shortly before she died. The children woke up and came in just moments afterwards. It could not have happened in a nicer way." Ms Wagstaff, who had three chil-

Claudia Joseph reports on the end of a charity champion's battle against illness

dren - Max, 11. Molly, 8, and Benjamin, 7 — was diagnosed with breast cancer in December 1994, almost three years after she first attended Guy's Hospital in London with a lump in her breast. Her husband is pursuing her medical negligence claim against Guy's and St Thomas NHS Trust for allegedly failing to di-

Ms Wagstaff, who was assistant

chief executive of Herifordshire County Council, founded The Lavender Trust in memory of Ruth Picardie, who chronicled her own illness in a series of newspaper articles.

Her funeral takes place today in the village of Brickendon and her husband has requested that, rather than send flowers, mourners send donations to The Lavender Trust. Bill Ogley, chief executive of Heri-

fordshire County Council, said: 'This is a tragedy for Beth's family and our thoughts are with them, It is also a great loss for the council. Beth was an enormous asset with her skill and en-thusiasm. She will be greatly missed." Rosemary Birch, a nurse who helped care for Ms Wagstaff at St Thomas' Hospital, said: "We were all very sad to bear of Beth's death. She was an extremely courageous lady."

Donations can be made to Breast Cancer Care on 0171-384 2984 or by sending a cheque to The Lavender Trust, Breast Cancer Care, Freepost LON644, London, SW6 4BR.

### 'Crisis ahead' over retiring Asian GPs | Brain disease drug hope

BY NICK NUTTALL

CERTAIN areas of Britain could lose a quarter of their GPs because so many Asian doctors are about to retire, a study has found. Of the 25,333 doctors in general practice, 4,192 — 16.5 per cent — qualified in South Asia before coming here. About two thirds of these will retire within the next ten years.

Areas that have few Asian doctors, including parts of the West Country, are unlikely to suffer. But other places, where half the GPs qualified in Asia, re facing severe problems. "In some health authorities there will be a loss of one in four general practitioners.

Those health authorities with the greatest number of such doctors are in some of the most deprived areas and have experienced the most difficulty in filling vacancies," says the study published in the British Medical Journal.

The authors, Donald Taylor, of Duke University in North Carolina, and Anecz Esmail, of the University of Manchester, are calling on planners to act urgently to counter the threat to health care. One area of concern is the falling number of students wanting to study medicine, and the relatively high number dropping out of their degrees or leaving the profession when young.

Apother issue is the expected retirement of doctors who qualified in South Asian medical schools and emigrated in the 1960s and 1970s primarily to fill a perceived staff shortage in an expanding NHS." say the team.

The researchers used data collected in 1992 which logged the country of qualification for British GPs. They tracked the movements of the doctors to assess the impact of their retirement on different health authorities.

The hardest-hit authority was likely to be Barking and Havering in East London and Essex. More than 56 per cent of its GPs qualified from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India or Pakistan. By 2007, half of these will have recired. Next hardesthit will be Redbridge and Waltham Forest, where 44 per cent of the GPs are of Asian background; half of these are likely to retire in the next eight years. Other hard-hit authorities include Walsall, Salford, City and East London, Brent and

Harrow, and Wigan.

Muhammad Chandry, 62, who qualified as a GP in 1966 and has practised in Chatham, Kent, ever since, said that, with so many doctors nearing retirement age, there would be severe problems. These days, young men were less likely to come over to work as doctors because they had to pass an examination in the English language before being able to register, he said.

BY HELEN RUMBELOW

A NEW drug treatment for brain cancer was made availa-ble on the National Health

Service yesterday.

The treatment is the mostpromising advance in two decades for the most common and most lethal form of brain cancer affecting 3.000 people in

Britain every year. Previously those with "glioma" tumours had a 10 per cent chance of survival, and chemotherapy was barely effective

with some terrible side effects.

Trials were carried out on people with advanced brain can-.cer, which can cause personality changes, speech blindess and paralysis. changes, speech loss,

In a third, their tumours were shrunk by the drug, and in half the drug stopped their funours growing.
"It transforms their quality

of life, which is amazing in a field where there has been really very little hope," said Ed Newlands, Professor of Cancer Medicine at Charing Cross Hospital, at the launch of the drug at the Cancer Research

er, it will cost about £1,200 a. month for a course of treatment, said Schering-Plough. which has bought the licence from the Cancer Research Campaign. Tests have begun to see if the drug has more powerful ef-

feets if used for early stages of the disease, and if it can offer hope to those with skin cancer. The drug has been in development for 20 years by Maicoim Stevens, working for the Cancer Research Campaign at Nottingham University.





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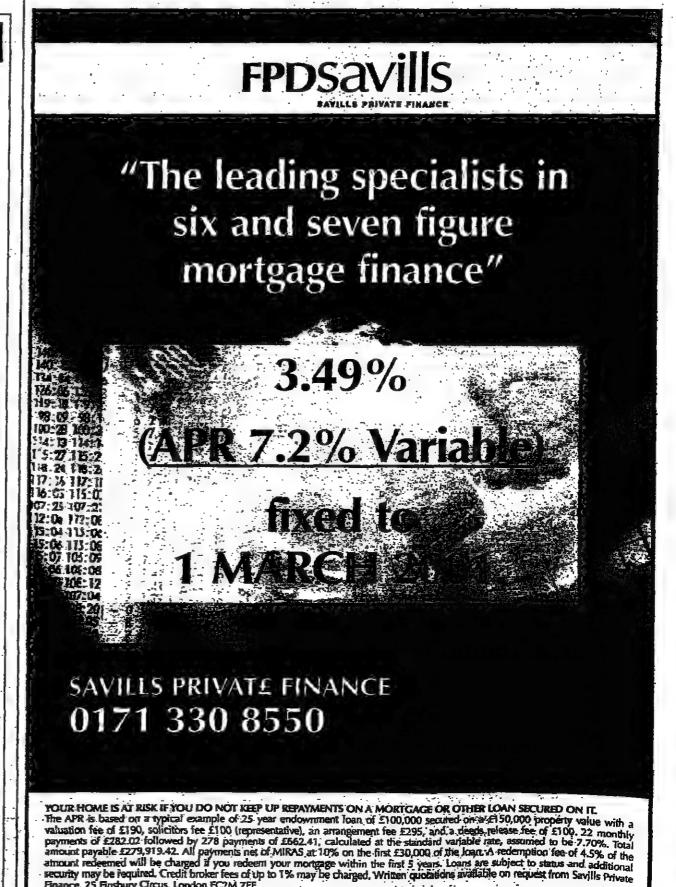
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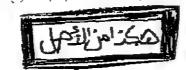
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Ffion Jenkins at the Royal Festival Hall, London, for yesterday's conference on business money for the arts, William Hague's wife, who works for the Association for Business Sponsorship

of the Arts, heard Colin

#### Firm backing for arts constantly to justify their existence, as though they were an embarrassment.

Tweedy, her chief executive, announce that sponsorship rose 20 per cent last year to

This is all the more odd as Ainsworth, Shadow Culture we are rather better at the Minister, said: "The most curious thing about the arts countries that share none

# Covent Garden cuts opera and ballet prices

slash ticket prices, stay open during the day and take opera and ballet into the community. Stung by the controversy over the £78 million of National Lottery money going to-wards its £214 million new building, it has finally acted to gance and mismanagement. The building, due to open in November, will offer free chamber music concerts; tours and exhibitions as well as oper-

less than before.

Top prices for full-length operas, such as the opening production of Verdi's Falstaff, will be about £100 less than in the old building, bringing them down to £150. The best tickets for ballet have been cut from £70 to £60. More than half the seats will cost £40 or less for all but the most expensive oper-

as and ballets for considerably

THE Royal Opera House is to as and £30 or less for ballet. Although Covent Garden always had tickets for only a few pounds, the new prices will greatly extend the range of ance, not administration." those between £6-and £45.

The opera house also guartickets in any range will be in the past the most glittering productions were sold to the great and good" and corporate members long before others could request them. Michael Kaiser, Covent Gar-

den's recently appointed chief executive, emphasised that the organisation was on budget and on schedule. The company had prepared a two-year budget that showed it could break even, he said, partly byreducing the administrative staff of 850 to 520, with a further ISO casual members.

Previously, Mr Kaiser said,

"too much on admin and too little on art. We have to remember what our mission is: ultimately, it's about perform-

The theatre has lurched from one financial crisis to another amid scathing criticisms of mismanagement in reports by the theatre director Sir Richard Eyre and the Culture Select Committee. While accusations of arrogance and elitism stained its image, it also had to contend with the threat of closure when staff refused to ac-

cept working conditions. However, the new board, under Sir Colin Southgate, persuaded the Arts Council to increase its subsidy from £14.4 million last year to £16 million from next April in return for pledges on public access, lower ticket prices and tight management controls.

Expressing a determination to create "one of the great theatres of the world", Mr Kaiser said: "People will be able to take tours, attend free con-certs, sit in the restaurants and bars," It will be open six days a week during the daytime, be-

tween 11am and 3pm. "We have made great strides with the pricing structure," he said. The lowest prices would be available when people most wanted to come — Fridays and Saturdays — when the top price would go down to ESS for opera, against the previous £147.50, and £50 for baller egainst the previous £70.

Central to Covent Garden's plans is the studio theatre for educational work and "hundreds" of events. The programme includes instructing teachers from state schools on the art of teaching opera and ballet, and working with children to create their own opera. Programmes will go beyond Covent Garden to hospitals

### Stage is set for a grand revival

BY RODNEY MILNES

THE programme for the ROH's reopening is good news for those who feared that box-office demands were going to mean wallto-wall Tosca. True, there is a revival of the muchloved Boheme early in the new year, Haitink conduct ing the award-winning Meistersinger with John Tomlinson, and a starry Rosenkavalier revival the sort of international fare the ROH is there for. Angela Gheorgiu and Roberto Alagna, the hottest properties in the business, will sing Gounod's Roméo et Juliette. Opening the season with that other hot property, Bryn Terfel, staff - with the well-tested team of Haitink and the director Graham Vick - is the sort of coup that the reprove it's not a one-off, Terel returns to sing in The

and Ligeti's Le Grand Maproduction from Salzburg. The other Otella -Rossini's — will be per-formed for the first time at the ROH, and Mozart's La clemenza di Tito, conducted by Nicholas McGegan, is another Salzburg import. But we will have to wait until next spring for what may well turn out to

So, a really well-bal-anced programme. Add the activities, many free, in the two new studio spaces. the hugely PC education star tenor" content to loosen corporate purse-strings, and you have to admit the

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Flying Dutchman. There are also a revival of Birtwistle's Gawain.

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MINUTES TALKTINES

# Not the same old Tory

Party chairman says his patrician

past is no bar to a modernising

future, writes Mark Inglefield MICHAEL ANCRAM does

bt seem the ideal person to : transform the Tories into a modern, meritocratic body.

The Conservative Party chairman is an Earl and will one day become the Marquess of Lothian. Add to that his pub-lic school and Oxbridge background, even the fact that his wife is a duke's daughter, and

reviva

classic old Tory patrician. "My background is there," he says. "It's not something I can walk away from. I've always thought you should judge a person by what he does and not where he came

you have what seems like a

Mr Ancram is no fuddy-duddy but an astute and determined politician. He will need every ounce of his skills to make the Tories electable

William Hague is the most unpopular leader since records began — and that is among Tory voters. Support for the party, as the MORI poll shows, has fallen to 24 per

"I take a very sanguine view of polls. William and I knew this wasn't going to be easy. We were comprehensively

GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE

Since it was elected in May 1997, do you think the Government has or has not.

Has E Has not

beaten at the last general election and we now have to show the public we have reformed as a fresh and dynamic party. Mr Ancram, 53, who took over from Lord Parkinson last October, brushes doubts aside. William is the jockey

who's going ride the Conserva

tive party horse to victory and I'm the trainer," he says. if that is so, surely Mr Blair is the equivalent of Red Rum - almost unbeatable. I'm not sure that Blair is a thorough-bred, he says. "He may have faults. He may break down and this is what we are begin-

ning to see signs of.
"Everytime he comes under pressure there is not the basis of principle in what he's doing on which he can fall back. You don't get the feeling there is: something sound there that is going to last the distance."

He adds: The idols began to show clay feet. Within this Government there was this culture of cronyism which is distinctly deep and unhealthy. And the events over Christmas have begun to show how deep those lines of cronyism went.

Mr Ancram believes one of the biggest threats facing the Tories - the Liberal Demo-



Michael Ancram: "William Hague is the lockey who is going to ride the Tory horse to victory and I'm the trainer"

crass merging with Labour in a centre-left alliance — have dition?"I have always taken the minished with the resignation

of Paddy Ashdown. T think there will be at-tempts to maintain it after he has gone, but I think its credibility is severely damaged." So does he really believe the

view in politics that you win elections at election-time. If the message is right and you are convincing people that you can be trusted and your opponents are seen to be faltering then you can win," he says.

"I am not impressed by the

jority can be reduced in two or three elections. If you an win an election by 179 you can lose it in one election." This all sounds a bit

محدد من رالإمل

dreamy. I ask him what scenario he would most like to wake up to. "That people suddenly begin to see how much

at the last election," he answers with a smile. "We were sold a box with the picture of chocolates on the top; now the box is open, the people sudden-ly find that the chocolates inside are very different to those that were painted on the box."

### Labour must deliver on promises

By PETER RIDDELL

THE public has become increasingly sceptical about the Government's ability to deliver on its promises, particularly to uphold high standards in public life, according to the latest MORJ poll for The Times.

The poll suggests that many people, including Labour supporters, are critical of the Government despite Tony Blair's continued high poll ratings. MORI asked a series of questions about the Government's performance which show both the extent of disappointment tions and a rise in doubts over the past year. This increases the pressure on ministers in what they have described as the year of delivery".

The most worrying finding for Labour is on sleaze. In November 1997, 55 per cent of the public thought the Government was upholding high standards in public life, while just 28 per cent disagreed. Now, 35 per cent think the Government is upholding high standards with 52 per

cent believing it is not. The shift among Labour support-ers has also been large. In No-vember 1997, the balance was 69 to 18 per cent on the side of upholding high standards. This is now 50 to 39 per cent, indicating the unease among the grass roots after the Man-

delson affair and other stories. The Government's standing on Europe has fluctuated considerably. At the 1997 election, 55 per cent thought that Labour would provide a strong voice for Britain in Europe. while 25 per cent thought that it would not. In office, and in view of the more positive approach taken by Mr Blair, this improved to 61 to 25 per cent

November 1997 However, after the argument over tax harmonisation, 45 per cent now think the Government is providing a strong voice for Britain in Europe with 39 per cent disagreeing.

By a 67 to 21 per cent margin, the public believes that the issue of Northern Ireland has been handled well.

Overall, 40 per cent believe that the Government has kept its promises, with 47 per cent thinking it has not. A significant minority of Labour supporters, 31 per cent, think the Government has not kept its promises, while 57 per cent believe that it has,

The poll showed a sharp rise -- from 34 to 49 per cent in the number of people mentioning the NHS as among the most important issues in Britain today.

adults on the Government's performance between January 22 and 25.

### Hague needs to alter style and tactics

Tories need now is natience. People may still not have much time for them, but that does not mean that they are starry-eyed about the Government. Having thrown out the Tories in May 1997, the public is not about to change its mind quickly, es-pecially as the Opposition has done so little to justify second thoughts.

However, the latest MORI poll for The Times contains warning messages for ministers. The public has doubts about the Government's ability to deliver on its promises and is worried about the NHS. Stories about "sleaze" have tarnished Labour's reputation for upholding high stand-ards in public life.

Tony Blair and Gordon Brown have repeatedly re-ferred to 1999 being the "the year of delivery", when the public wants to begin to see tangible evidence of improvements.

So nervous are ministers that ready raided the RIDDELL modernisation ON POLITICS

fund to find money for nurses. These doubts ofter some bope to the To-ries that Labour is not impregnable and is potentially vulnerable. It is a question of timing and depends, of course, on the depth and length of the economic downturn. However, the Opposition has to be in a position to benefit which, at

present, it clearly is not. The stupidest reaction to the poll would be to panic, and William Hague, if not all his MPs, is too sensible to do that. There is no simple, or quick, way out of the Tories' current predica-ment. Whatever Mr Hague does gradually to reshape his frontbench team over the next few years, a dra-matic reshuffle would be a waste of time, and almost certainly make no impact on the public. Equally, questioning Mr Hague's own

His own personal rating,

mains very low, particularly among professionals and managers and 35 to 54 year olds. However, his rating has improved among Tory supporters while deteriorating among others. No one in his Shadow team would do better in the short term. and Kenneth Clarke is too out-of-step on the euro for the tastes of many Tory

MPs and activists. If it is obvious what the Tories should not do, there is less agreement about what they should do. Most spokesmen are active and energetic. The problem is that too much of their efforts are misplaced and un-focused. Condemning the Government at every opportunity convinces no one except the faithful. The Tories have failed so far to present themes which strike a chord. That is partly because they are sticking too rigidly to their strategy of

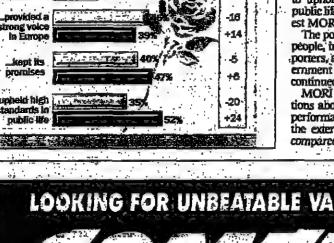
apologise, then listen, then set themes and, finally, offer polialternatives. But listening too often amounts to

meaningless marketing What the Tories need to do is to select areas where

the Government is vulnerable and to present a credible alternative, as they are starting to do on waiting lists and choice in schools. This need not involve a detailed costed policy, but it should be tangible enough for the public to understand. At present, the only distinctive Tory policy is opposition to the euro and. while that is undoubtedly backed by the majority of hard-core supporters, it is also driving away some activists, as Michael Heseltine pointed out last night.

Europe apart, the Tories need to change their style and their tactics. They too often appear unsympathetic and out of touch. No wonder that voters are still willment its sins - for the moment, at least.

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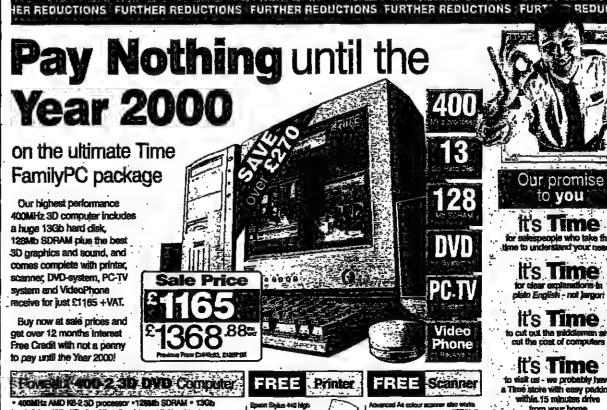






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'Mary is one of the loneliest people I know



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of artist land in the second instantesis in the second in the second instantesis in the second in

Mary Bell, the child killer, left; a tabloid reaction to her escape from jail in 1977; and how The Times last year serialised Cries Unheard, the biography by the author Gitta Sereny, centre

Last Spring The Times serialised Cries Unheard, Gitta Sereny's disturbing biography of the child killer Mary Bell. In the ensuing controversy. The Times was accused of breaching press watchdog rules banning payments to convicted criminals. The Press Complaints Commission rejected the complaint, saying the book was in the public interest. But concerns were raised about later allegations of media harassment against Bell and her daughter, who learned of her mother's identity for the first time. On Wednesday peers debated the lessons to be learnt from the case. Lord Wakeham, chairman of the PCC. insisted that The Times had been right

to publish. Reports: James Landale

# Street of shame or real life?

opened by Lord McNally, the Liberal Demo-The time crat peer who initiated it. He quoted from two has come journalists. "Brian MacArthur, writing in The Times on May 1, to think of

had this to say about the press treatment of Mary Bell and her family in the spring of 1998: 'It big fines<sup>7</sup> - Lord McNally was the fault of the tab-

loid editors who have hounded her. It need not have happened and there were many journalists around me who were ashamed of their trade'. Harsh words indeed.

"But Mr Roy Greenslade, writing in The Guardian on July 23. 1998 following the PCC adjudica-tion, wrote: 'In siding with the edi-tors who have published — and paid handsomely for it - the stories of convicted criminals, the PCC shows it lives in the real world." Lord McNally said: "Two jour-

nalists, both of whom I respect, and two different views: street of shame or the real world. It is because there are conflicting opinions and unan-

ask this question to-Government to say vhether those responsible for Mary Bell's su-pervision had informed ministers that she was writing a book, "If ministers were not involved

and misjudgments oc-curred at lower levels. have lessons been learnt? Secondly, can the minister tell us why the injunction which carries the name of a 'Mary Bell Order' was so late in applying to the very persons it was initially designed to protect?

Lord McNally quoted from a letter he had received from Lord Irvine of Lairg. The Lord Chancellor said he would consider it "repugnant" for a football hooligan to profit from a book about his crime, but he would not ban it: "I could not bring myself to prohibit a book of this kind which could add to the sum total of human knowledge

about the genesis of crime."

Lord McNally said that the Lord Chancellor and the PCC were miss-

swered questions that I ing the point. "What happens when wind when they think a that kind of public interest - that is, a genuine extension of understanding of an issue - is transformed by the press into salacious titillation for no other reason than to sensationalise and to sell newspapers? The commission view that it was publication, not serialisation, which provoked the search for Mary Bell is doubtful."

Lord McNally voiced concern at the rule preventing the PCC hold-ing an inquiry without an initial complaint being made. "I believe the commission should change its rules. To allow a situation to arise where newspaper reporters are camped outside the house of a 14-year-old girl supposedly under the protection of the courts, in flagrant abuse of the PCC code, is tantamount to a fireman watching a house burn down but doing nothing because no one inside has di-

alled 999." He said the PCC was improving and growing in public respect. "But when it fails, it fails spectacularly. It fails because journalists, editors and publishers throw self-regulation and codes of conduct to the

story sensational enough to abandon all STORY . restraint. I believe the time has come to consider sanctions of a hefty fine - I mean seven figures - to deter breaches

of the code."

Lord Williams .of Mostyn, the Home Office Minister, said an internal Home Office inquiry had found that

there were occasions when ministers might have been in-formed about the Mary Bell case but were not. He said the Permanent Secretary had instituted new guidelines for civil servants about keeping ministers better informed.

The Earl of Longford, the Labour pecr, insisted that convicted prisoners should be allowed to profit from writing books. "Anybody who has been in prison for many years, accepting his full punish-ment, should be allowed to be rewarded and paid for his work. Otherwise, we should be adding to his punishment." Lord Longford asked for the PCC to give greater protec-

tion to prisoners hound-The press ed by the press. They are helpless and at the mercy of the tabloid

must put Hill, a Liberal Demo-crat, noted that from 2000 the Human Rights its house in order?

- Lord Lester

der act would come into force, forcing the courts to balance free speech and privacy. "It is important that the PCC is given the power to provide effective remedies so that the courts are only involved in the last record." are only involved in the last resort and not as a matter of course. The media clause which the Govern-ment wrote into the Human Rights Act is a great incentive for the press to give powers to the PCC since the privacy code will be taken into ac-

count by ludges when they decide upon what remedies to grant."
"I am convinced that the right to personal privacy is not sufficiently protected, certainly for private persons like Mary Bell's daughter. Second, unless the PCC is given powers to provide effective remedies, especially compensatory remedies in

cases where they may or may not be a victim complaining, the courts will have to intervene. I hope that one of the lessons that is learnt by the press is that it must put its house in couler by the press. house in order by giving greater powers to the PCC."

In his maiden speech, Lord Neill of Bladen, chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, voiced concern about giving the PCC powers to enforce financial penalties. "My difficulty is that as Lord Lester of Herae soon as one gives that sort of power to the PCC, it is inevitably turned into a quasi-judicial tribunal where the place is packed, and there is no right to refuse to let lawers come and argue their cases. "

Viscount Astor, for the Tory front bench, said he had found To Times's public interest arguments in the case compelling. But he suggested that the PCC might consider whether or not it should be able to investigate on its own volition without waiting for a complaint from an injured party. If the commission does not want to consider the whole range of third-party complaints, it may wish to consider whether a particular case is relevant to another case which it is currently considering. The commission may wish to consider whether in its opinion there is an overwhelming public interest issue at stake."

scued chi

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### Wakeham says Times" abided by press code

LORD WAKEHAM, chiairman of the Press Complaints Commission, reiterated his view that The Times had acted in accordance with the code when it serialised the Mary

Bell biography.
"It was not a moral judg-ment about whether the book should have been written. It was not a judgment about Mary Bell's decision to accept money. It was not a judgment about whether it is right or wrong to pay criminals. It was basis of a code which says that newspapers can pay criminals
— either directly or indirectly
— provided that there is a public interest in doing so and payment is necessary for that

to be done." He added: The commission found the public interest case put forward by The Times in this case to be overwhelming. It was, in a nutshell, this: does the criminal justice system actually deliver justice to children as damaged as Mary Bell was and, if

not, how can it be improved? "I have to say that the public interest oozes from every pore of the book and in turn from the extracts from it which were serialised in the newspaper. They included circumstances of how a child who grew up in surroundings of depravity came to be a mur-derer; the connection between Bell's own crime and the abuse to which she was herself subjected; and the first au-thorizative account of how the

Wakeham: said public interest case was overwhelming

penal system deals with child criminals. All those matters were of genuine public interest. That is why we believed The Times was right to serialise the book and did not breach the code in doing so. What the author had to say was important and deserved a

wide audience." But he added: "What disturbed me far more is what followed: namely the alleged harassment of Mary Bell and her daughter and the apparent fact that Mary Bell was forced to reveal her identity to her duaghter for the first time. The commission had massive sympathy for Mary Bell's daugh-ter -- as indeed did The Times

but was constrained in what action it could take." First, an injunction covering identification of Mary Bell existed, but was not being enforced.

Second, no one made a complaint, preventing the PCC holding an inquiry. "I would have welcomed a complaint about the alleged harassment which took place. It would have given us an opportunit to make clear that the harassment of any child is unacceptable and that we shall always

fire and

British Red C:

He added that the "furore about the payment to crimi-nals and the alleged harass-ment that took place would have occurred whether or not there was serialisation of the book in The Times or any oth-

Lord Wakeham ended by offering to co-operate fully with the Government's review of

#### **Review** of law by summer

LORD WILLIAMS of Mostyn, the Home Office Min-ister, said a review of the law on allegations of media harassment and intrusion would be completed by summer.
But he said the difficulties of

changing the law were significant. "If we can encourage the PCC at least to review its present powers, to see whether or not they are working effec-tively, in the end that may be the best way forward." He suggested that the PCC should be able to instigate investigations on its own volition.

He voiced his "shame and horror" at the alleged treatment of Mary Bell's daughter by the media. But he said the history of the press over the past ten to IS years had been of "responsible improvement". He acknowledged that The Times had overcome the "quite high hurdle" when making its public-interest defence.

He said: "We cannot have a democratic, free society without a press which is free. A free press is bound, on occasions, to overstep the limits. The scheme that we need is for the PCC to remedy those wrongs it can and for only the rarest of cases to be the subject of legal proceedings."

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# Scotland Yard plans specialist restraint teams

SCOTLAID YARD is planning to setup emergency medical teams rained to deal with mentally il people or violent drug uses after a series of deaths in ustody.

Sir Pat Condon, Commissioner of a Metropolitan Po-lice, has refered senior officers to draw up a blueprint for the team after the death last week of loger Sylvester. The 30-year-od black man from North Lindon, who suffered from metal illness, died after being hel by police during a disturbace.

This seek a jury decided that restaint tactics contributed to theleath of Nathan Delahunty, businessman from South Lindon who became distressed after taking cocaine. The inquest was told he had 52

Sir Pal is also considering issuing ideo cameras to the teams ad to police dealing with distribed people so that the film an be shown to inquests. Vieo cameras are already use in stations, on operations ancare carried in some

would opeate like armed response veicles. They would be on 24-hour call around London and could carry paramedics, doctors or officers with spe-

Each would have a qualified high speed driver. Officers called to a scene could summon their aid or 999 dispatchers would alert them after an emergency call from a mem-

ber of the public. The team would be qualified to assess a patient, and civilian counsellors could mollify a disturbed man or woman. If they could not be calmed the teams would restrain them safely using the techniques deployed by nurses in mental hospitals. They would be able to sedate a patient and arrange for transfer to hospital by ambulance.

rush of adrenalin.

Scotland Yard has started talks with ambulance services,

coroners and doctors to assess

the plan and work out how it

could operate. Sir Paul ac-

knowledged that setting up the

units would be expensive but

The teams would be the first of their kind in the world, but Sir Paul now feels they would be justified to relieve the pressure on officers and answer

public concern.

Sir Paul said yesterday that be had decided there must be new measures following the case of Mr Sylvester, who died in an intensive care unit after being taken by police to a mental health hospital.

Police first-aid training has already been improved and



Maria Dingwall and actors Christopher Eccleston and Tom Courtney at the service

### Cathedral full in memory of **Derek Bentley**

SOUTHWARK Cathedral eside London Bridge was full yesterday afternoon for a long-postponed service in memory of a simple-minded young man hanged 46 years ago for murdering a police-

Derek Bentley's conviction for the murder of PC Sidney Miles was quashed by the Court of Appeal last July. Yesterday's service was an ex-ercise in penitence and contrition, though government ministers who had promised to attend failed to appear.

Despite their absence the cathedral was full, and many more people who had in-volved themselves in the case over the years sent messages or cards of support.

The Provost of Southwark, the Very Rev Colin Slee, delivered a scathing sermon against complaceny and in-stitutional immorality. Capital punishment is not only evil because miscarriages of justice cannot be reversed but also because it pollutes and ultimately destroys the very fabric of morality in so-

ciety," the provost said. Derek Bentley's death, he said, had altered the lives of many people, and trans-formed Bentley's working-



Bentley: hanged 46 years ago for murder

class family "into doggedly determined campaigners, articulate, informed and politically active". The provost added: "It is a matter of profound regret that there is no senior ministerial representa-

tive here." Derek Bentley's niece, Maria Bentley Dingwall, deputy mayor of the London Borough of Merton, read from St John's Gospel.

Christopher Eccleston, who played Derek Bentley in the film Let Him Have It. attended. Derek Bentley's brother Dennis, 56, said: " can imagine my mother and father and my sister, Iris, being very proud if they could

### Rescued chimp gets new start

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

ONE of the rost unusual custody battles 1 Britain began vesterday wit a subtle but defiant change t a pame.

Directors t the monkey sanctuary tha rescued Trudy the chimpanze from the cruelty of circus traise Mary Chip-perfield announce that its name would nowe spelt with a "y" rather than rudi as the Chipperfields hast.

Chapterfield, , who was found guilty on bednesday of cruelly towards is chimpanzec, is insisting o having her back. Andover Magistrates Court was told lat because Trudy was owneby Chipper-field Promotions and and not Chipperfield berlf, it could not stop the commy return-ing the champ ther Hampshire farm.

The chimp spat much of the first 18 months its life in a cage, less than by 3 metres, in a freezing barni was isolated from other simals and had only a swing rope and a ball for entertaiment. Her

sleeping quarters, in which she was locked from 4.30pm until 7.30am, was a darkened box similar to that used to transport cats. Her meals included scraps from supermarket rubbish bins.

Trudy's new world consists of a two-acre run and a large centrally heated house complete with gymnasium. It shares the area with a group of 11 whose members have all been rescued from abuse. Meals served at regular intervals include milk, primate pellets in a choice of raspberry and malt flavour, sunflowers,

fruit, eggs and vegetables.
Jim Cronin, who took her to Monkey World, Wareham, Dorset, last April after police confiscated her from Chipperfield, said the chimpanzee. which has two finger tips and a foe missing, was traumatised. We have rescued 44 chimps. She looked very much like them. We immediately showed an interest in her life and she responded."

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# Murder riddle darkens Yale's hallowed halls

THE brutality of the murder alone might have made a few headlines. The young woman was found face down with 17 stab wounds in her back and neck. But there had been 11 other murders in New Haven. Connecticut over the previous year so it was hardly likely to register on the national radar. The disclosure that she was a Yale University student made it more interesting, of course.

No student at the prestiguous university had been killed for eight years. Then police said that this time they were not looking for a low-life robber or local drifter, They suspected that the killer was somebody from the tight-knit lvy league academic community

Almost two months after Suzanne Jovin, a bright and popular 21-year-old politics major, was found dead, no-body has been arrested or charged. That does not mean, however, that accusatory fingers are not being pointed. One of the world's most famous universities is consumed by the mystery, the gothic halls sullied by an atmosphere of suspicion.

mosphere of suspicion.

Jovin spent much of December 4, the day she died, throwing a party for mentally ill people in the town. After the party, at about 9pm, she returned a borrowed van to the university and was last seen by college porters on campus.

Three quarters of an hour

Mystery deepens over student's

brutal death, writes **Damian** 

Whitworth

later she was killed, on a patch of moonlit grass in an up-market residential area that immediately struck investigators as strangely out of the way.

James Van de Velde, 38, who was supervising Jovin's thesis on international terrorism, entered the picture when police began talking to people who had seen her on the day she

died. He said that he had seen

Professor Van de Velde:

that he was innocent and the way the investigation was being conducted was unfair.

The public announcement that I am in a pool of suspects is immensely upsetting. Any suggestion that I had anything to do with the death of my former student is deeply, deeply painful and outrageous."

to circulate.

the professor said.

His offers to supply a blood sample and take a lie-detector test were turned down. Nevertheless, the university cancelled his classes, insisting that it presumed he was innocent but that his presence in the classroom would be "a"

for less than a minute, when she dropped off a draft for his

Professor Van de Velde's stu-

dents reported that he was visi-

bly upset in the days after Jo-

vin's death. With tears in his

eyes he had placed a bouquet

on her chair in class and asked

for a moment's silence. "The

professor seemed as shaken as

everyone else," said one. He also wrote a tribute to Jovin in

the Yale Daily News. Then ru-

mours about the popular pro-

fessor, who lived half a mile from where Jovin died, began

Police confirmed that he

was a suspect and began inter-

viewing students, former stu-

dents and other acquaintances. Professor Van de Velde

responded by saying that the situation was a "nightmare".

perusal

Suzanne Jovin, the 21-year-old student at Yale who was killed in a knife attack

major distraction for students and impair their educational experience"

A Yale graduate himself. Professor Van de Velde had worked as a diplomat in the State Department under the Bush Administration before returning to his alma mater to teach. He was renowned for his unusual methods, such as pulling a gun out of his briefcase in class to demonstrate to

his diplomacy students how to deal with an extortion attempt. He would later say that the gun was not real.

His apartment contained books marked "CIA" and there was speculation as to whether he had worked for the agency, or wanted to create that impression. Professor Van de Velde was studying for a journalism degree and had been gaining work experience

at a local television station. While there two female television reporters filed complaints about his behaviour. One accused him of peering through her windows and constantly phoning her after she broke off a fledgling relationship.

The university authorities have decided that Professor. Van de Velde will continue to be paid as police struggle to find the killer in their midst.

WORLD IN BRIEF

### Nigeria threatens to quit Freetown

Frectown: Sierra Leone's embattled democratic Government may soon be forced to negotiate with the leaders of bloody rebellion after Nigeria's leader said this week that hywanted to pull his troops out of the country to ensure a smoot transition to a civilian government due to be elected in May (Sam Kiley writes). General Abdusalaam Abubakar said habuja that he wanted to withdraw his troops before May 3.

A sudden pullout by the Nigerians, who dominatehe Ecomog forces backing the elected Government, would be disastrous for its leader Ahmed Tejan Kabbah. He has only a handful of loyal soldiers, the rest having repeatedly changil sides.

#### Harare torture proven

Harare: According to a report issued here there is uneniable medical evidence that the two Zimbabwean journasts detained illegally last week by military authorities were tortured (Jan Raait writes). Phillimon Chigwanda, an ohopaedic surgeon and trauma specialist, said: "There is no bubt in my mind" that Mark Chavimduka, 34, editor of the intependent Standard newspaper, and Ray Choto, 36, a report, were "subjected to severe interrogation and torture".

#### Call for Rock detente

Spain's main opposition party has called on Madrid to set aside the issue of sovereignty in the search for an accommodation with Gibraltar (Michael Binyon writes). The Sanish Socialist Party has called for talks to boost co-operatin and mutual understanding, and suggested a given periodwhen there should be no change in the status quo — a break with tradition sure to receive warm encouragement in Brilin.

#### 11 hurt in Cape blast

Cape Town: Eleven people were injured, three stiously, when a bomb exploded outside a police station in thereart of the city. Leonard Knipe, of the serious violent crims unit, said two suspects were being interrogated. Michael loward, the visiting Shadow Foreign, Secretary, went to the sme and said: "These offences need to be tackled with determination and I hope the perpetrators will be brought to justic." (AFP)

#### Daredevil transplant

Tampa. Florida: The motorcycle daredevil Evel Knievel, right, was in a stable condition after undergoing a liver transplant. Knievel, 60, has hepatitis C, which he believes he contracted from one of the many blood transfusions he needed after spectacular crashes in the 1960s and 1970s. The disease destroyed his liver. Knievel broke at least 35 bones and underwent surgery 14 times during his stunt career. (AP)



Bulletin.

#### Chips down for lovers

Kuala Lampur: Muslim couples married is the Malaysian capital will be issued with cards with commus chips so Islamic police can instantly verify their yow. I news report said Islamic police often raid tooms suspend of sheltering an unwed pair. Islamic law prohibits see diside marriage, and offenders face up to two months in jaiand a line. The Government hopes to give police portable trd-readers. (AP)

# Teachers lose their grip in Japan's blackboard jungle

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT

UNRULY pupils are driving Japan's teachers to seek psychiatric help after a collapse of discipline has left them unable to conduct classes in many schools. Clinics are having to treat increasing numbers suffering mental breakdowns and stress-related illnesses brought on by the phenomenon stoking a national depate gakkyu hokai, or disintegrating classrooms.

Forty-four per cent of junior and secondary teachers say that they have witnessed the breakdown of discipline in classes, either their own or those of colleagues, according to a survey this mouth by Kyodo news agency. This time last year the Japanese media were awash with reports of classroom violence, which culminated in the fatal stabbing of a woman teacher by a 13-year-old.

In recent weeks, a country that once prided itself on rigorous class-room obedience has been shocked to discover that anarchy is spreading. Even junior schools, where children are traditionally most docile, are hotbeds of rebellion. Teachers testify

that it is common for lessons to be disrupted by pupils walking around, chatting and sharing snacks. Staff also tell of boys relieving themselves in corridors, spitting on classroom floors and smashing windows. Earlier this month two 15-year-old boys, screaming obscenities, lashed out at a group of male and female teachers, inflicting injuries that sent five staff to hospital, two with broken cheek-bones.

The maybem is taking its toll on a profession that long enjoyed respecting a country obsessed by education. At a national teachers' conference

last weekend participants described a sense of powerlessness. "The crisis in our schools and educational system is escalating at a rapid pace." Yuji Kawakami, head of the Japan Teachers Union, said.

The Ministry of Education says teachers are increasingly affected by mental disorders: those whose absence stemmed from stress or nervous breakdowns account for a record 39 per cent of sick leave. The ministry blames pupils' disobedience. The toll on mental health is confirmed by doctors. Dr Ken Okada, head of psychiatry at Kanto Chuo Hospital in

Tokyo, has seen a sharp rise in teachers seeking treatment. "Many are males in their mid-thirties and females in their forties. Younger ones quit before they go mad."

This mouth a teacher, 24 commits.

This month a teacher, 34, committed suicide in the chemistry laboratory of a high school in Hokkaido, northern Japan. The man was said to be in despair over the collapse of discipline among his pupils.

Teaching experts, media pundits and parents groping for explanations are blaming a breakdown of

family values, too much television

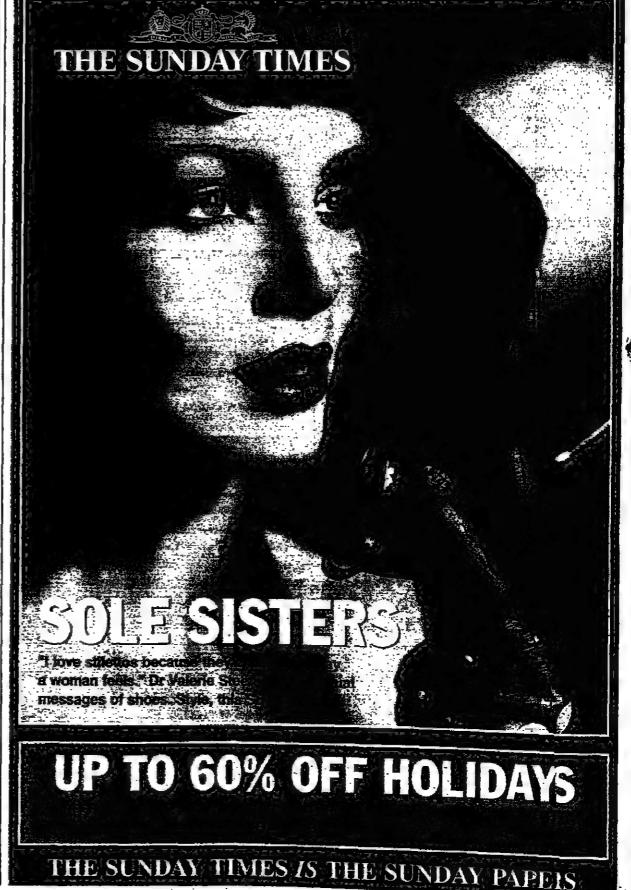
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# Phone taps link key Milosevic men to killings

FROM TOM WALKER IN BELGRADE

TWO senior Serb officials close to rugoslavia's President Milosevic have been implicated ir the massacre earlier this mouth of 45 ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, according to senior Vestern sources citing intercepted communications.

The recorded conversations have connected Nikola Sainovic, the Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister, and General Sreten Lukic, Kosovo's senior police commander, to the Racak massacre. Mr Sainovic is one of Mr Milosevic's most loyal allies, and before becoming his "paint man" in Kosovo, was his main negotiator in

The aped telephone calls be-tween Belgrade and Serb pol-ice commanders in Kosovo gave Villiam Walker, the senior international official in the province, all the evidence he needed to convince the Yugo-slav authorities that he knew too much to be thrown out of the owntry. Western sources

Rent detent

and the place

经海绵 化二烷

Mr Walker, the head of the

Organisation for Security and took journalists out for a meal Creams atton for Security and Cooperation in Europe's mission in Kosovo, was curiously unruffled during the Serb propaganda furore that crupted following his condemnation of the Racak massacre. Hardliners within the Serbian Consequence of the consideration of the Consequence of Government demanded his immediate expulsion.
Yet Mr Walker remained up-

beat throughout, and even



on what was supposedly his last night in Pristina. It now appears that Mr Walker had already heard the tapes show-ing that Mr. Samode was in close contact with General Lukic, the police commander

on the ground in Razak.
On the tapes General Lukic is initially told to "go in heavy" against Racak, a village well-known as a frontline Kosovo Liberation Army position: General Lukic and his fel-

low commanders in the province had been deeply angered by a series of KLA raids from Racak, the most recent of which had claimed the lives of three policemen. The sources said that Mr. Sainovic was kept up to date throughout the operation, by General Lukic, and at one point was told that the death toll stood at 22. Yesterday Belgrade denied

the existence of the tapes and an anonymous government official claimed it was "complete. nonsense to believe that Western intelligence could track

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military command messages between the Belgrade Government and Kosovo.

This is a big manipulation by the CIA, who are preparing to put in Nato troops and even-tually to bomb," said the official. An aide to Mr Walker, however, said that Belgrade badly underestimated

Western intelligence gathering in Kosovo. "Of course we can listen to conversations," he said, adding that he had "an ace up his sleeve".

عكذر من رالإمل

Sources say the tapes record Mr Sainovic and General Lukie deciding to bar Louise Arbour, the international war

tering Yugoslavia, and include discussions over how best to make the massacre look like a

pitched battle.

Mr Sainovic advised that the bodies be reclaimed from the village mosque, which, after an intense bombardment,

Diplomats in Belgrade yes terday pointed out that while the tapes clearly implicate both men in the operation, they do not prove that they planned the massacre. 'Telling people to go in hard is not

News of the tapes came as Mr Milosevic's party rejected the six-nation Contact Group's plan for a Kosovo peace conference, "There never has been a peace conference with terrorists and why should Yugosla-via be the exception?" said Ivica Dacic, the Socialist Party

### UN chief backs use of force

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

KOFI ANNAN, the United Nations Secretary-General. yesterday supported Nato's threat of force in Kosovo, saying that Bosnia had underlined its necessity when all else failed.

Mr Annan was speaking during his first official visit to the Nato headquarters in Brussels on the eve of today's meeting in London of foreign ministers of the six Contact Group nations. This is expected to propose a peace conference at a neutral European venue within the next two

He told Nato ambassadors that the alliance must refine "the combination of force and diplomacy that is the key to peace in the Balkans". Recalling the "lessons of Bosnia", he said: "The bloody wars of the

last decade have left us with no illusions about the difficulty of halting internal conflict by reason or by force particularly against the wishes of the Government of a sovereign state." He added: "But nor have they left us with any illusions about the need to use force when all other means have failed."

Mr Annan gave a warning that such a point might now have been reached in the former Yugoslavia. Javier Solana, Nato's Secretary-General, was due to give a solemn warning to Belgrade - probably later today - that Nato was prepared to launch airstrikes against military targets if the Government did not comply with its commitments to restrain its troops in

Kosovo and begin immediate

peace talks. Igor Ivanov, Russia's Foreign Minister, flew to Paris yesterday to discuss the latest violence in the turbulent province with Hubert Védrine, his French counterpart. Both will be in London today, together with Male-deine Albright, the US Secre-tary of State, and the British, German and Italian Foreign

Ministers, to decide on further pressure to get peace

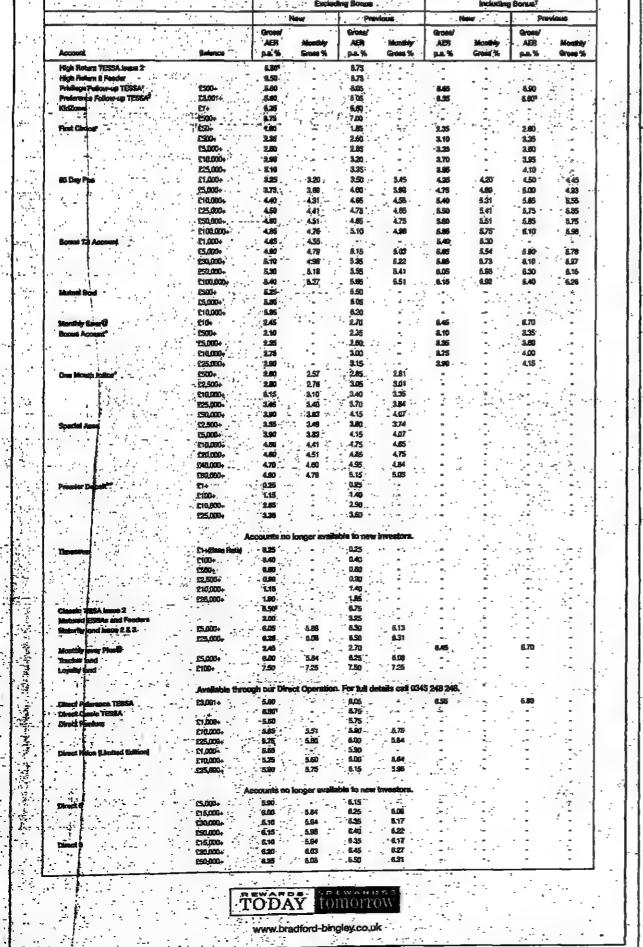
talks going.

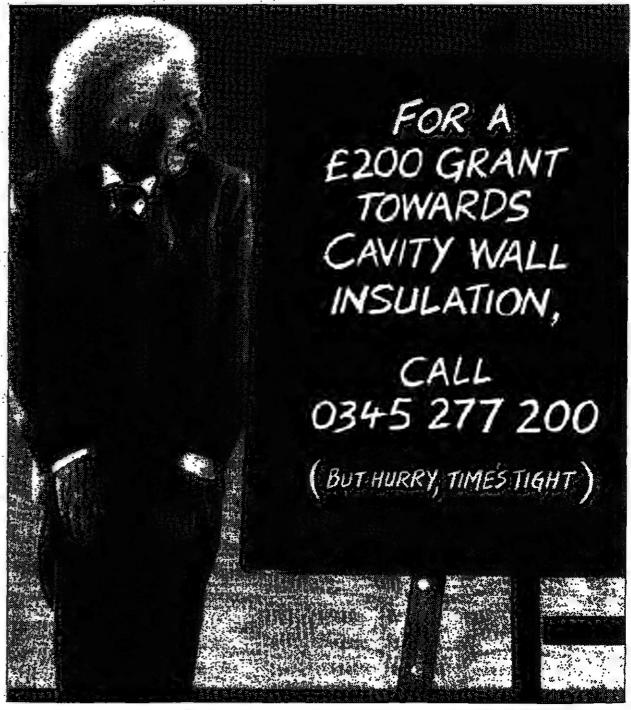
Moscow is implacably opposed to Nato airstrikes and is expected to throw its diplomatic weight behind a proposal for a peace conference. Belgrade has in the past rejected such a conference, while the ethnic Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army has shown no interest in any diplomatic solution that leaves Kosovo as

part of Yugoslavia. Mr Annan underlined the importance of learning the lessons of Bosnia "where horror threatens". The world had to be clear about the "credibility, legitimacy and morality of intervention and non-intervention". The only way to do that was to ap-ply the lessons practically and emphatically.

In Kosovo horror was not just a threat but a reality. He wanted a political settlement. But in an apparent call to Nato not to lose its nerve, he said: "Let me ask only that we all - particularly those with the capacity to act - recall the lessons of Bosnia."

Nato is not expected to repeat its threat of intervention until after the Contact Group meeting so as not to embarrass the Russians.





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# US backs Jordan's heir apparent

Albright visit gives lie to US disappointment,

Christopher Walker writes

THE American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, yesterday paid a hastily arranged call on Jordan's novice Crown Prince in an attempt to put the weight of the United States behind him and to ensure there is no return to Jordan's old friendship with Iraq.

The symbolic 90-minute session, the first taste of international diplomacy for Prince Abdullah since being anointed on Monday, was confirmation by Washington that even in the unlikely event of King Hussein recovering from his latest cancer relapse, power has moved to a younger genera-

The talks came after further strong proof of tribal backing for the 36-year-old prince when hundreds of robed Beduin sheikhs converged on his hilltop palace to pledge allegiance. They coincided with pessimistic rumours about the King's health and the disclosure that a drastic deterioration in his condition on the plane from Jordan to the US had resulted in a false report spread in Israel and the Gulf that he was dead.

The conviction that the King, who has ruled for 47 years, is unlikely to return to his throne has unnerved Jordamians who have been kept in suspense by clumsy censor-



Beduin troops gather to salute Jordan's Crown Prince Abdullah, the heir apparent to the Hashemite kingdom, on his arrival at the royal palace in Amman yesterday

ship. Some Amman shopkeep-ers were weeping openly last night at the latest health bulle-

ports spread by the monarch

himself that he had fully recov-

ered and cartoons in the Am-

man press last week showing the ogre of cancer being knocked out by the 63-year-old King in the guise of a boxer. The anxiety of Jordanians waving his gloves up high. was exacerbated by false re-The importance of yester-

day's visit, inserted into Mrs

Albright's crowded itinerary

at the insistence of President

Clinton, was underlined when Babel, the Baghdad paper owned by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son, praised the ailing monarch's switch in the succession away from his brother, Hassan. The appointment of Prince Abdullah was described as the wisest move

made by the King since Jor-dan sided with Saddam after his invasion of Kuwait.

The hand of Iraqi intelligence was seen in the new whispering campaign against demned by his brother for not

American airstrikes on Iraq. He is reviled by the Baghdad regime for urging it to introduce democracy and respect

human rights.

Mrs Albright said she wanted to "make it very clear where the United States stands with Jordan". She added without elaboration that she had discussed with the prince "the issues he is facing in Jordan", understood to mean economic difficulties and potential cam-

paigns destabilisation from Syria and Iraq.

By coincidence her visit came the day the final shipment of Jordan's military aid for 1998 arrived at the Red Sea. port of Agaba. The \$25 million (£15 million) worth of infra-red equipment, anti-tank weapons, ammunition, telecommunications equipment and spare parts, bought the total of American aid for the year to

\$76 million. The US Embassy disclosed that Washington was planning to provide a further \$425 million worth to military sid over the next three years to the

tiny kingdom. Mrs. Albright's impromptu trip was also seen as an atwith the new ruler to be, who is known for his closeness and affection for Britain, having a

to school and university in Britain. The King also served in the British army. "Mrs Albright will not have

said anything, but we all know America was miffed that Prince Hamzah with his American mother, Queen Noor, was not the son chosen to succeed." one European diplomat said. On the record, the Secretary

of State spoke warmly of Prince Abdullah and said they had "no expectation of changes" after his replacement of Hassan, deposed after 34 years as Crown Prince and seen as a potential focus for dis-

"Abdullah is not an un-known quantity, he is very much a chip off the old block," said one senior US official, reflecting a widely-held view here that the Sandhursttrained major-general and fearless parachute enthusiast has inherited many of his father's qualities.

In an open letter to the ailing King, now once again recerving treatment in the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, Prince Abdulish pledged to follow in his footsteps. Hundreds of advertisements taken out in the phasise the same point to prevent domestic splits. "This cub is from the iion king," declared

# of hiding smallpox virus

FROM ROSS DURN

ISRAEL'S Health Ministry has been accused of placing ing the smallpox virus in its laboratories, in breach of international agreements. A report in todays He-hrew daily Yedioth Azaron-oth will allege that the virus is not properly scared, placing in danger those members of the public who have not been vaccuated

against the disease. in a response to the re-port the Health Ministry said that its employes did not work with the smillpox virus in its laboratories but

it stopped short of derying it had samples.
"I am shocked if this is true, it makes my flesh creep," said Professor Litan Rubinstein, an infectious

diseases expert at Tel Aviv University.
At the end of the 1770s. the World Health Organisa tion (WHO) declared the disease had been eradicat-

ed and stopped its vaccination programme. In the years following the announcement member countries of the WHO, including Israel, agreed to destroy stocks of the virus in their laboratories, the virus fad been kept for research purposes and to develop inoiuation material.

The newspaper claims that some officials in theleraeli Health Ministry dedded to ignore the agreement and continued to secretly hold samples of the vints, along with other types of dangerous material.

"Despite the clear darger to public health, the virts is kept in defective security conditions, and close to densely populated areas."
the newspaper alleges.
Up until a few months

ago the virus was being kept in a laboratory or Jaffa Road, the main thoroughfare in Jerusalem, according to the article.

Dr Undsay Martinez, an expert on satalloox for the WHO, said "The decision to destroy the virus applies to all member countries in are laboraturies which hold samples or any of the virus material, that is a dangerous and serious act."



AMERICAN military jets attacked an air defence site in. northern Iraq yesterday as Washington underlined its determination to confront Baghdad's reneated challenges to the no-fly zones despite civilian casualties earlier this

Two F15s fired three precision-guided missiles in self-defence at the site near Mosul after they were targeted by Iraqi anti-aircraft fire, according to a spokeswoman at Incirlik airbase in southern Turkey, from where British and American aircraft police the northern air exclusion zone. Personnel at the base earlier donned suits to protect against a chemical-weapons attack after a false aleri of a possible Iraqi missile

On Tuesday US warplanes attacked five sites in the Basra area, a day after a stray 2,000lb missile struck a residential area in the southern

city of Basra itself. Iraq said at leen, in public at least, to dis-least 11 people died in what it tance the lingdom from Wash, portrayed as a deliberate at ingum's cills for Saddam to be removed from power. iack on the civilian popula-tion. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, said, that every effort would be made to avoid civilian casualties, but accused President Saddam Hussein of putting his own citizens in harm's way

civilian communities". She was speaking in Saudi Arabia after holding talks on Iraq with King Fahd and other Saudi leaders who have been vilified by Baghdad for supporting last month's Opera-tion Desert Fox. Mrs Albright later told American troops at an airbase outside Rivadh that provides support for aircraft patrolling the southern no-fly : zone: "You are the delivery system for a simple message to Saddam Hussein — quit bullying your neighbours." But sen-

ior Saudi officials appeared.

by hiding his military assets in

removed from power.

They made clear that clean safety made clear that agreed, said James Rubin, Mrs Albeght's spokesman.

Washington has offered military and imanial support to several clean opposition groups and inpointed a diplomat. Frank Ricciardone, who was traveling with Mrs Alberght to co-definate the effort to topple Saddam.

Basehdal trao has wasted

b topple sadam.

Baghdal fraq has started in reconstruct Baghdal buildings which there damaged in the US-less air and missile strikes last mention including two buildings of the ruling Baath pary, the Al-Zawra weekly nevspaper reported weekly nevspaper reported esterday. I was the first time that the danage to the Baath party buildings has been reported in Iraq. (Reuters)

#### Saudis give US troops luxury base

Prince Sultan Air Base: US troops in Saudi Arabia will move on February 23 into a new high-security housing complex capable of accommo

dating up to 7,100 people.

The Saudis have built the E104-million complex with bomb shelters, perimeter sen-sors and barbed wire.

The 4,300 Americans enforcing Operation Southern Watch over Iraq will have a swimming pool, gym, squash courts and library at the base,

40 miles south of Riyadh.
Madeleine Albright. US
Secretary of State, told troops
there yesterday: With your
help we will continue to enforce the no-fly zones and leave no doubt that we will respond to provocation." (AFP)

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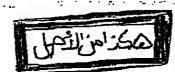
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# Olympic lobbyist denies role in scandal

AN EGYPTIAN-BORN mid-dleman at the centre of the Salt routo to seek the 1996 Games. Lake City scandal yesterday denied any involvement in bribing. Olympic delegates and called for open voting on future venues to prevent further corruption.

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Mahmoud El-Farnawani 66, a former Libyan national olleyball coach who now runs a sporting souvenirs com-pany in Canada, worked as a paid consultant for both Salt Lake City's and Sydney's win-ning Olympic bids. After the Salt Lake City scan-dal broke, a Libyan and a Sud-

anese delegate he had lobbied on the cities' behalf were forced off the International Olympic Committee amid allegations that they had taken favours from the bid committee:

In an interview with The Times, Mr El-Farnawani said: "If there is no open vote you can expect the same thing to happen again." Mr El-Farnawant is a member of a new profession of global lobbyists, known as "Olympic agents". who use their personal friendships with Olympic delegates for lucrative consulting con-tracts with cities eager to host the Games.

An accomplished volleyball. player from a prominent Egyp-tian family, he moved to Libya after the 1967 Middle East war and emigrated to Canada in 1969 when Muammar Gaddafi came to power. He first became involved in Olympic bidding when he volunteered to



El-Parnawani called for system of open voting

Even though Toronto lost to Atlanta, Sydney and Salt Lake City sought his help in secur-ing support for their bids for the summer and winter Olympics of 2000 and 2002

They call me an agent," Mr El-Farnawani said. "I do not like the term. I am a consultant because I make strategy, watching the other cities, capi-talising on their mistakes." Employed by Sydney on a retainer of \$3,500-\$4,000 (£2,120-\$2,420) a month, Mr El-Farnawani was present at a Monte Carlo hotel in September 1902 when the Observation ber 1993 when the Olympic committee voted 4543 to award the Games to Sydney.

The night before the vote, according to documents. Australian officials met two African delegates to promise \$70,000 to their national Olympic com-

Salt: Lake City paid him \$161,000 to lobby for the votes of Arab-African delegates from Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. He provided personal details about the delegates to improve the bid city's chance of influencing them. Information ranged from the delegate's family problems to such trivia as whether to stock his hotel mini-bar with alcohol

Although he cannot promise to deliver votes because of the current system of secret balloting, he does concede: "I can say I have a good chance to convince my very good friends." Mr El-Farnawani friend of both the Libyan delegate and the Sudanese member forced off the IOC by the scandal.

He says he briefed Salt Lake City officials about the Lib-yan's devotion to his family of three sons and three daugh-ters, but only learnt of the scholarship deal for his son about a year later. He says he had no knowledge of payments to the Sudanese.

"To kill the core of the corruption is to have an open vote," he says. "I owe you nothing. You owe me nothing."

Ganga hits back, page 53.



وحدر من رالاما

### Scandinavians in grip of coldest snap for a century

FROM BIRGITTE HYGEN IN OSLO

A SEVERE cold snap has hit much of Scandinavia, gripping Norway. Sweden and Finland in some of the lowest temperatures recorded here this century. Schools were closed, shops and post offices abandoned, streets deserted and electricity frequently cut off as people

SOILE KALLIO / RELITERS

struggled to keep warm. In northern Norway near the Russian border the temperature fell to minus 56C (minus 69F) in one village the lowest for 100 years. In the Finnish town of Pok-

ka, where the temperature was minus 51C, even hardy sledge dogs were allowed to sleep inside. Power cuts left many homes without heat for up to five hours. We wondered how to spend the night, but then we remembered the sauna in the basement is wood heated," said one resident.

In Karasjok, high in the Arctic Circle, temperatures fell to minus 51.2C—just fractionally short of the all-time

record of minus 51.4C endured in 1886. Television reporters dem-onstrated how cold it was by throwing cups of warm wa-

ter into the air where it became a cloud of ice crystals before reaching the ground.
A plane bound for Oslo from Alta in the North was left frozen to the runway. Mobile telephone networks collapsed. Most people stayed in good spirits and marvelled at each record. The severe cold weather has been blamed on winds blowing in from Siberia. Forecasters say the cold will persist

over the next few days.

□ Moscow: Parts of Russia have experienced their coldest weather this century, the Russian Weather Service said. Temperatures below minus 40C in Archangel paralysed drawbridges over the North Dvina River, keeping some ships out of bar-bour. (Reuters)

Leading article, page 25

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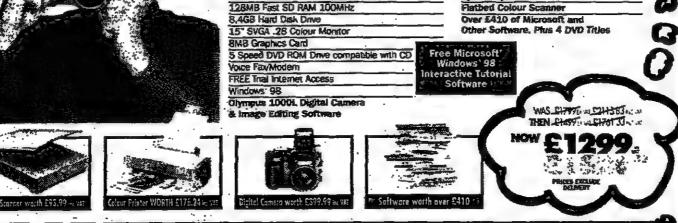
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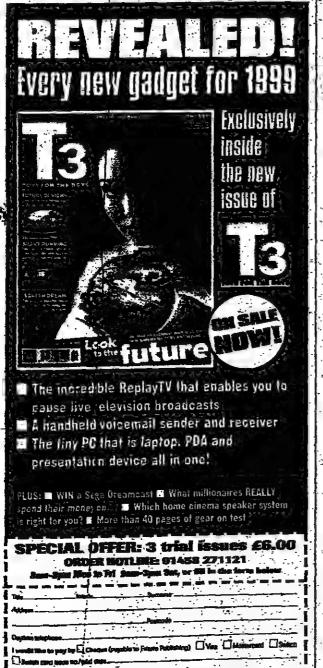
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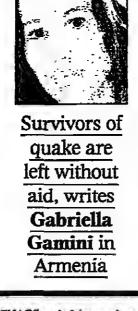
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# Hungry and homeless go on looting rampage



CHAOS and violence reigned in Colombia's stricken earthquake tone as thousands of homeless and hungry survi-vors went on a looting ram-page. They claimed that no emergency relief had arrived since 20 cities and villages were hit by the quake on Mon-

day.

In Armenia, the shattered capital of Quindio province, looting began on Wednesday morning after desperate survivors awoke to a third day without food or water, huddled in makeshift shelters. The frenzy soon spread across the city. Yesterday desperation led hun-dreds to fight their way into supermarkets and grocery shops in neighbouring Calar-ca and La Tebaida. Meanwhile Colombian Red Cross officials confirmed that 880 bodies had been recovered

from debris across Quindio, and said that attempts to find more survivors had been hampered by heavy rain. The death toll is expected to rise — Armenia officials believe it will exceed 2,000 — since only 30 per cent of the disaster area has been searched so far. Rescue teams and government officials still hope to find people alive under rubble, but as the search continued, Armenia's centre became a battle ground for looters and police, with lo-cal officials trying to co-ordi-

nate aid workers. Hundreds of dishevelled survivors clubbed and tore their way into one major supermarket branch in the heart of the city. Dozens ran out with a few goods while others had trolleyloads of food, lavatory paper and bottles of mineral water.

"This is not stealing," said Jaime Ramirez, who clutched bags of flour, beans and sugar. "My children have eaten nothing but bananas and have drunk only a few sips of water in the past 48 hours."

"We have not received as much as a glass of water from the Government." said one woman who stuffed potatoes and onions into a sack. "We are desperate.

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Police and troops, deployed on Wednesday to prevent other supermarkets being invaded, were reported to have fired shots in the air and engaged in hand-to-hand scuffles. But the officers I saw al-

lowed looters through, saying: These are people who have lost everything and are scram-bling for food because they are starving." By yesterday after-noon. Armenia had been scoured for every morsel in the

shops. Colonel Dagoberto Garcia.



A looter is arrested in Armenia where Colombian earthquake survivors clashed with police and troops yesterday

Armenia's police chief, said the spree had not been spurred by hunger alone. "I saw TV images of people running out of supermarkets with bicycles and jewellery. That would not be the case if they were just hungry," he said.
The Government admits,

however, that its relief operation has been inefficient and slow. On hearing of the loot-ing, President Pastrana yesterday flew to Armenia to take charge. "We have to show the people that we have not abandoned them and that relief is on its way," he said.

Cecilia Ramirez, head of de velopment for Quindio's provincial government, said: "The situation is critical. Only 5 per cent of the aid to survivors has been sent and handed out." Another state official said: "There is too much bureaucracy. As we sit around discussing what to send where, people are going hungry and thousands are dying under rubble." He called Red Cross, firefighting and civil defence teams "chaotic". Government officials in Bogota said more than 94 tonnes of food, water, tents and medical supplies had been gathered at Catam Air Force base outside the capital. Journalists have seen supplies being sent, but when goods reach Armenia, according to one city air-

port official, most have been delivered to corrupt local lead-ers who are selling them at high prices. At the Bogota headquarters of Solidarity Centre, an aid organisation to which Colombi-ans have sent donations for vic-

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tims, boxes of food and medicine stood in the rain. 'No one has come to collect them and we don't know when they will be sent," said a worker. Bad administration of foreign aid is not new. When funds poured in after the 1985 mud and rock avalanche that killed 25,000, swallowing the Andean town of Tolima, millions

Nahora Pastrana, the President's wife, made a television. appeal saying: "Be patient, we ,

vanished, allegedly pocketed

by corrupt local officials.

are sending tents, food and help for the children." International aid of \$20 million (£12) million) has been pledged to help to restore the once prosperous coffee growing region. Britain has bought \$50,000 of medical equipment and lavato-ries and donated another. \$100,000 to a medical charity.

Nineteen British firefighters and rescue workers were flown into Armenia on Wednesday night and teams of Russians, Mexican and Japanese experts have arrived

with modern searching equip-

One boy, io, has been saved after three days under a col-lapsed five-storey building in Armenia. Three corpses had been recovered on Wednesday before rescuers heard the muffled calls of Daniel Andres. "Here I am, Mummy Don't worry, I am OK, Daniel, who suffered back injuries, said. Later, he said he drank his urine to stay alive, "But I ney,

er gave up because I could

Jakarta opens way to political

INDONESIA paved the way for a new era of political free dom yesterday as the course dom yesterday as the com-try's Parliament unanimously approved sweeping reforms that promise democracy for the first time in four decades, and the military announced that it would comply with the will of the people on independence for East Timor.

Representatives (DPR), once a rubber stamp for the ousted President Suharto, passed the laws after a special three-hour sitting and cleared the way for elections on June 7. What has been achieved to-

day will be recorded in our nation as a new chapter heading towards the birth of a govern-ment which stands on the basis of the sovereignty of the people, Syarwan Hamid, the Home Affairs Minister said, The reforms include a

duction in the DPR seats reserved for the military to 38 from 75, an end to restrictions allowing only three political parties and a proportional repesentation system for voting. News of the reforms came as General Wiranto, head of

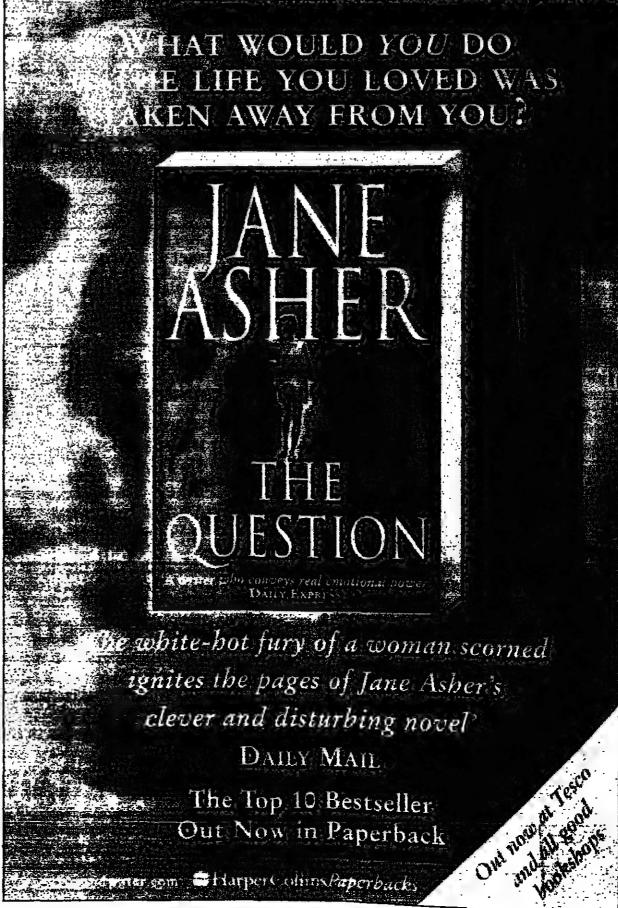
the Armed Forces, announced that the military would accept the people's wishes for East Timor despite the great sacrifices and loss of life made by the Indonesian army. We have always pulled to gether to do the best for East

Timor ... if it is decided that East Timor is no longer part of Indonesia, of course ... we will comply with it," he said. The announcement fuelled speculation of an early release for Xanana Gusmao, the East Timorese political prisoner who led the separatist move-

ment pitted against an occupa

tion force that now numbers 20,000 Indonesian troops. Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 and declared it its 27th province a year later in a move that is still not recognised by the United Nations. Yesterday's dramatic devel opments came a day after Ali Alatas, the indonesian For-eign Minister, announced that the Government would

propose opening the issue of granting East Timor full inde endence to legislative debate



freedom FROM PATRICIA NUNAN IN JAKARTA The 500-member House of

questions. senators want to ask key wimesses

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ELONIZIO III. 養婦 (besp.) Clar police . COLUMN TO WAR at the Property 36 km 21-4. ell Blummer. and desired in the



# Official loses his job after colleagues are niggardly with knowledge

A LINGUISTIC confusion has revealed just how strained are race relations in the capital. A local government ernment officer has lost his job for using the word "niggardly", which has no relation to "nigger" but was deemed by colleagues to be of-

David Howard, who is white reached for the word, which is believed to have originated in the 14th century, to explain at a meetDamian Whitworth reports on the high haps a little hastily, resigned as head of the Office of Public Advoprice paid for remark deemed racist

ing that he was going to have to be miserly with a government fund. "I will have to be niggardly with this fund because it's going to cost a lot of money," he said. Two black aides looked stunned

tried to apologise but to no avail.
When the worker who had walked and one stormed out. Mr Howard flocked in and Mr Howard per and suggesting Mr Howard might

Democrats deride

Senate 'show trial'

cate, handling citizens' complaints.
Anthony Williams, the black Mayor, accepted the resignation.

when the worker who had walked out demanded an apology, Mr poor judgment even though he Howard said, he was given no didn't say anything that was in itchance to explain the word he was self racisi. Later he backpedalled using. Rumours flew, complaints a little, launching an investigation be allowed to return to the staff. explanation doesn't get it." Many but in a different job, if he is ultimately judged to have done noth-

There's quite a bit of hubbub. Kojo Nnamdi, black host of a talkshow. "It's indicative of the state of race relations in Washington. A simple explanation should have sufficed. When it comes to race in Washington, apparently a simple

Howard was guilty of failing to realise the word could be confusing. Marcus Marshall, 22, a black employee in a sporting goods store, said Mr Howard did the right thing in stepping down.

kind of word. He should be pun-

ished because it's so close to a de-

English, a dictionary of 1,400 "highly offensive and often inflammatory" words and phrases.

The possibility of confusion, how ever, is raised in A Dictionary of Modern American Usage. The word has no connection to the racial slur, it says, but some speakers and writers have come to shun it to avoid misunderstandings.

#### Questions Senators want to ask key witnesses



Princess of Wales, as the most famous woman in the world because

dent, first exposed a year and a week ago (Bronwen Maddox writes). Maximum sensation value but thin pickings for the prosecu-

Meanwhile, the Senate risks annoying Americans who would dearly like her testimony to be televised, but will otherwise have to make do with Andrew Morton's

Just possibly, she could help prosecutors to stand up their charge of perjury - but only if they interrogated her about which "body parts" the President touched.

Ms Lewinsky has already testified that she thinks the President was not obstructing Justice in giving her gifts or getting-

□ VERNON JORDAN: He is Bill

Chinton's First Friend, a longtime soulmate from Arkansas days, partner of a leading Washington law firm. If the

President: confided in anyone about Monica it would have been Mr Jordan, many believe. Prosecutors want to ask him about whether his efforts a to get Monica a job were an atof by Mr Clinton to obstruct

as public tires of political wrangle FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON THE White House began to focus we need witnesses when the manyesterday on the new peril of a crim-inal prosecution of President Clin-

ton after he leaves office, as the Senate trudged on with what Democrais have jeeringly dubbed a "show trial".

The White House team is split between political advisers who want to "quit while we're ahead" and allow the trial to wrap up early, and legal eagles who fear that this could expose Mr Clinton to later. criminal pre-ecution.

Trent Lott, the Senate Majority Leader, maintains that a deal which ends the trial within twoweeks is still possible. But yesterday many from both sides said that that was wishful thinking.

The "show trial" libe stems from Democrats' new confidence, after Wednesday's twin Senate votes, that Republicans will never muster the two thirds majority to oust Mr Clinton from office. But buge uncertainty over the length and conduct of the trial remains, with the White House's response the most important wild card.

The White House yesterday tried to blame the Republicans for extending the trial by voting to call witnesses, while keeping open the option that it might prolong the process by summoning its own wit-

Mease killed a couple and

their teenage grandson.

agers have finished their part of the

Americans understand, claimed, "that the fact that this trial" continues to go on is the responsibility of the Republican majority. The new worry for the White House is that a quick trial could leave unchallenged testimony which might be the basis for a future prosecution of Mr Clinton even if he remains in office.

They are also concerned that the "compromise" of censuring the President without removing him from office could add to Mr Clinton's future legal risks, if the motion said that he broke the law.

Despite the White House's fears, there is growing support from senators of both parties to bring the trial to a rapid end, following signs that public tolerance is ebbing.

A Gallup/USA Today poll pub-lished yesterday found that 57 per cent of voters disapproved of the way that Senate Republicans were handling the trial, and that only a third approved. But in a clear warning for Demo-

crats, the percentage of voters approving of the way they are handling it has fallen by eight points to 45 per cent in just two weeks. Democratic Senator Carl Levin of Michigan said yesterday: "A prompt

mean some unfairness to the President, who by rights should have the opportunity to call his own

As the Senate yesterday strug-gled to reach a deal, Mr Lott returned again and again to the Senare floor to ask the presiding judg Supreme Court Chief Justice Wil

liam Rehnquist for more time. In the Senate corridors, senators paced anxiously, waiting for bells to ring to signal a return to the floor, or for the beepers with which each one has been equipped to alert them that their party was summoning them for yet another huddled meeting to gauge support for the

The toughest sticking point yesterday afternoon was whether to have live witnesses or to have videotaped testimony, and if a recording was made, whether it should be re-

leased to the public.

Jobs fillip: Aiming to boost the skills of workers, Mr Clinton is proposing \$965 million (£592 million) in new spending to retrain workers; teach illiterate adults to read and increase job opportunities for

The latest budget details include increased grants for adult literacy programmes, a free telephone number connecting displaced workers to unemployment and retraining re-Joe Lockhart, a spokesman, said: ending is the number one priority sources, and \$50 million to create well make a decision on whether in my book, even though it may jobs for disadvantaged youth.



White House defence lawyers Charles Ruff, centre, and David Kendail, right, at the Capitol

#### SIDNEY BLUMENTHAL A surprise addi-tion to the witness line up. The Senate subpoena will turn a national spothight on this presidential adthalist a shadowy but cen-ure in the Clinton enfou-

onately loyal to the Clin-

ith Downing Street on Third Way policies. Proscritors want to question him on whether the President deliberately hell to him about Monica before Mr Blumenthal gave evi-

dence in the grand jury.

tons, and a particularly good briend of Hillary, he has worked

# Plea by Pope saves triple killer from death sentence

al plea by the Pope led yesterday to a convicted triple murderer having his death sentence commuted to life without parole.

- Darrell Mease had originally been scheduled to die at the same time as the Pope was visiting Missouri this week. Mel Carnahan, the Baptist Governor of the state, said: "In reaching this decision, I took into account the extraordinary circumstances of the Pope's request and the historical significance of the papal visit to St Louis and the state of Missouri I continue to support capital punishment, but after careful consideration of his direct and personal appeal, and because of a deep and abiding respect for the pontiff and all he represents, i decided last night to grant his

Mease, convicted of murdering a drug partner, the man's wife and their handicapped teenage grand-son in 1988, had been scheduled to die yesterday - the second day of the Pope's two-day visit.

The execution date had been set in November by the state Supreme Court. Four days later, the court changed it to Pebruary 10. The court gave no reason but many believed it was because someone had realised the first date coincided with the papal visit.

The Pope praised the Governor's decision as a gesture of "profound humanity". The Mease case was a rare victory for the Pope, who has seen pleas to spare other US inmates in Missouri and other states

He spoke out strongly during his visit against capital punishment. Mr Carnahan declined to spare the life of another inmate for whom

the Pope had sought clemency in

Joaquín Navarro-Valls, the Vatican chief spokesman, noted that Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican Secretary of State, had met privately with the Governor during the Pope's stay in St Louis this week to present, in the pontiff's name, a request for clemency for Mease.

Last year the Pope asked his envoy in Washington to relay his ap-peal for Karla Faye Tucker, who was convicted in the 1983 pickaxe slayings of two people in Houston. She was executed. In July 1997 the

Pope's appeal on behalf of Joseph O'Dell, an inmate in Virginia, galvanised a campaign in Italy against capital punishment.
O'Dell was executed for the 1985 rape, torture and murder of a woman in Virginia. By the time of O'Dell's appeal, the Pope had made about a half-dozen pleas for clemency by US authorities. An early, more publicised one was for Paula Cooper, in 1987 an 18-year-old death-row inmate in In-

diana. She had stabbed an elderly Bible teacher. Her sentence was commuted to 60 years. (AP)

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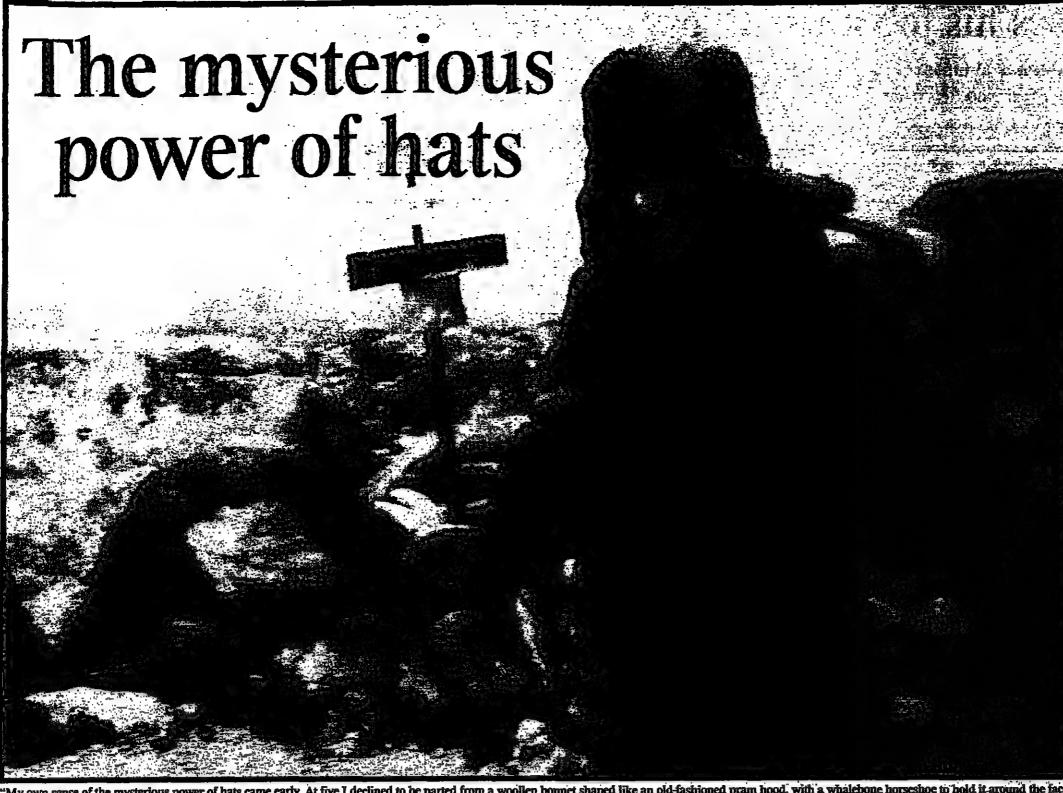
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"My own sense of the mysterious power of hats came early. At five I declined to be parted from a woollen bonnet shaped like an old-fashioned pram hood, with a whalebone horseshoe to hold it around the face."

very garment tells a story, but of all the clothes in the wardrobe, the most loguacious is the hat. Hats are aphoristic, Like it or not, by wearing one, you are allowing the essence of your personality to be

creet hemisphere of stiffened fabric. A good It is not just monarchs, guardsmen and hat can cardinals who find themseives reduced to a symbol by their headgear. have the Think of all the other same kind of shorthand for the person underneath them — Dot Cotton's shrewish turban; Queen Elizabeth the Queen result as a facelift Mother's sweet-pea Dolly Vardens; Benny from

Crossroads pathetic woolly tea cosy and its tough-guy antonym, the black knitted skullcap fancied by burgiars, terrorists, members of the special forces and anyone else up to macho no good in

Then there are mouldy green

cowpats favoured as leisurewear by denizens of the House of Lords and working men's clubs, and the remarkable head sculpture modelled by Isabella Blow - the Peggy Guggenheim of modern millinery. My own sense of the mysterious

power of hats came early. At five I declined to be parted from a blue and white woollen bonnet. It was shaped like an old-fashioned pram hood, with a springy whalebone horseshoe to hold it firm around the pom on the back. I wore

it continually, indoors and out, for some weeks. Looking at the photographs, I suspect I had decided that it was better than the ruthlessly ugly pudding-bowl haircut underneath it.

There followed a battle - or rather a seven-year war of attrition against the loathsome school hats (grey felt in winter, rigid straw in summer) to be worn at all times outside the school gates. Unable to

defend them on aesthetic grounds, our back on science, straight out of the top of our heads, to be wasted in the surrounding atmos-

phere, unless we trapped it under It didn't work. We ran about bare-headed, doing our bit for glo-bal warming, until the day we left in quick succession, a little black beret like a French Resistance heroine, a large felt halo, as worn by Colette's Gigi, a hunting bowler with a veil like the one belonging to Trollope's dashing Vi Effingham, and a Persian lamb toque, for look-

ing gloomy on stations in the manner of Anna Karenina. These days, if I had a literary fashion icon. I suppose it would be Tabitha Twitchett, who is so ground down by domesticity that she goes about hatless. This does not mean, however, that I have lost interest in hats. On the contrary, a at a fraction of the cost, the same result as a facelift, offering a dramatiflattering background for a

pretty profile, or making eyes seem huge and jewel-like. It is an effect not lost on Lady Weinberg, who is often photographed peering out from under a cartwheel brim with eyes like sap-

If you feel the need for this kind of lift, now is a good time for hathunting. A hat is, as scientifically demonstrated by my headmistress, an essential shield against the weather. And if your shield should happen to come from Philip Treacy or Stephen Jones - well, whose business is that but your own?

Since it is midwinter the shops are filling up nicely with pastel cruise wear. But pockets persist, in the bigger stores, of winter hats, satisfactorily reduced. One of the best sales is at Liberty, where a glossy faux beaver flowerpot by

Stephen Jones is £84 (£169); he also does an amazing, furry, broad-brimmed curate's hat, £116 (£220), and if you had a winter wedding to go to, you could divert all eyes from the bride in his black velver cartwheel trimmed with white ma-

rabou and black cocks feather, £297 (£595). Less flash, but just as chic, are Philip Treacy's black felt fez trimmed with carled cocks feathers. E77 (E125), his felt leopard-print pixie hat. £112.50 (£225), and his giraffe-print bowler with curled feathers, £87.50 (£175). If you insist on a sensible hat,

Liberty's own-label faux

beaver flowerpot with a choice large furry bow is £20 (£39). Heather Allan's brown and silver Davy Crockett hat with two dangling tails is £130, and Fred Bare's filac quilted-satin trapper's hat, lined in fake fur, is £42 (£85).

At Harvey Nichols, Gilly Forge's black "mink" with a turn-up brim is £49.95 (£100); her "snow leopard"

white "mink" pillbox by Philip Somerville is £31.95 (£65). Accesso-rize has jolly striped ski hats for £9.99 (£12.99), a gypsyish black velvet hat with crimson embrokered roses, £12,49 (£24,99), a pale blue

can for £7.49 (£14.99) and a mubbly black bou The faux cié hat with a face-frame ng brim for £12.49 beaver

ilowerpot

sensible

So far I have bought nothing. I think Lam trying to decide between Brora's cashmere pullon, £19, Agnès B's small black cloud of an alpaca beret, £40, and La Malson de la Fausse Four-

roure's chinchilla with its endearing paw print-lining, £2250 (£45). My son, however, has other ideas. In Peter Jones he spotted Karl Donogine's wildly eccentric shock of curly black Mongolian lamb. For just £79 (£15), he tells me, I can have a har that will lend me the violent allure of Dennis the Menace's identical twin sister.

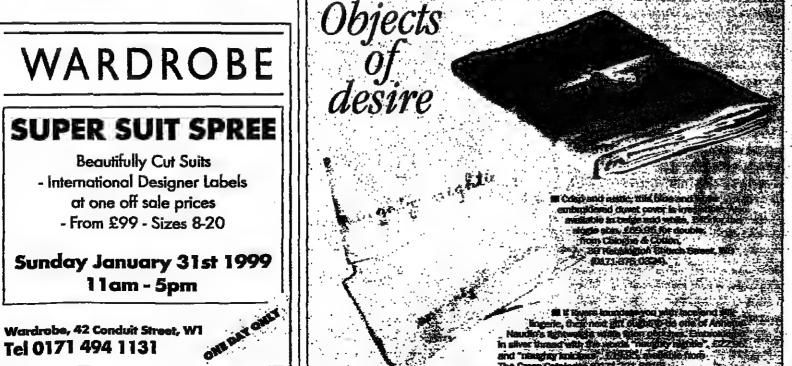
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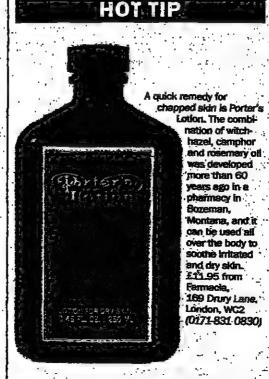
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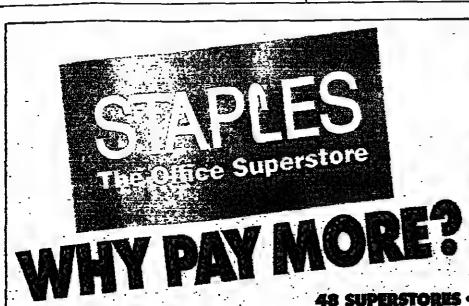
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MASSOCIATION WITE tommy tommy



Time for a chat in the age of electronic communication, people are losing the simple social skills of empathy, good manners, intuition and tolerance

# Losing the human touch

ay goodbye to human life: we can get by with a human mo-ment. The latest think ing from American business gurus is that employers should introduce a human moment into the working day. This would be an interlude in which e-mailing has to stop and people must talk to each other.

In an eight-page study in the Harvard Business Review this week, David Hallowell, a psytive stress, defined the human moment as "an authentic psychological encounter that can happen only when two people share the same physical space. He recommends it for workers who have "fallen vic-tim to virtuality". This means so much of their communication is through non-haman tools such as e-mail, voicemail and automated response systems, that they are losing the

A report says that we are spending too much time communicating through technology. Celia Brayfield calls for the return of personal contact

buy Viagra by a fax mailing system and wasted half an hour on the telephone to Ikea, finding out that the widget you need is not available in birch veneer. We are all victims of But this perk for the techno-

as a kind of virtual tea break, a blessed window in which people can be themselves instead of cogs in a machine. No, no, no. The human moment is intended to "build confidence and trust at work", so that people can graft harder, sell more shiff and generate more profit. So no change there.

The man has a point, even if he makes it in psychobabble. Alienation is creeping into our lives like the parasitic moss for calling Ikea. E-mails may dance and achieved eye conbe generated by human beings, but the conventions of the medium rule out politeness; thanking anybody for anything is a waste of screen. New communication tools

are stripping out layers of our charm, empathy, intuition, tolerance and acceptance. Dr Hallowell would probably call these social skills. Our grandmothers would have regarded them as good manners. Whichever, they are abilities we need to live together and they are developed by practice, at the cost of some exposure and embarrassment low on the learning

People are less and less able-

tact once in the evening, will now stay away and think he is among young people in Europe, conducted by the GfK talking to girls in Internet chat rooms. He can make dates, earn money and download half his education without having to wash, dress or leave his

flesh-eating zombles terror-ised a town. Children called

the police, only to hear an auto-

mated voice say: "If your town is being terrorised by flesh-eat-

People under 20 are wor-

ried. A survey of attitudes

market research company,

found that their main fear was

the loneliness caused by elec-

tronic working. Employers

may find that they have to of-

ment if they want to employ

human beings at all.

ing zombies, press one ..."

This behaviour is not restricted to teenagers. There are many marriages in which the computer has become the third person in the relationship and the one to turn to in times of trouble. Those in "people professions" are beginning to panic; PRs complain that nobody goes to parties any longer, sales executives cannot pitch without a programme to follow. I know of one company which has a problem finding a receptionist who can smile

and say "hello". Virtual culture, like drug culture, has its own values by which the victims judge their antisocial behaviour to be normal. Consider the case of Samuei Simpson, aged two. Sam is a pre-school Nintendo nerd. He spends all his waking time playing video games, throws tantrums if he has to eat or have his nappy changed, and his favourite word is "Die!" His mother claims that she is lucky because "I have friends with children the same and you see them clutching at their mums all the time and demanding attention. I don't get that with Sam."

The ultimate casualty of this new emotional illiteracy is love. People no longer talk over the garden fence; nobody is content with the boy next door any more. Like Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks in Nora Ephron's film You've Got Mail, they go on a Net-quest for their ideal partner. Dating has become an ordeal because people treat each other like commodities. They look for love not with open hearts but with checklists of desirable attributes and the compulsion to tick off the lot. They cannot cope with individuality, and see any giving they might do as conditional on the other party meeting their specifications.

"I told them from day one what I liked and he is very, very good," said Carla Germaine, the "blind-date bride" who met her husband at the altar after a Birmingham radio a meeting. With a free flat and a holiday in the Bahamas as rewards, they had a compatibility assessment in place of chemistry, faced a lie detector in-stead of dating and took psy-chometric tests instead of meeting each other's families. "How can she not be my perfect partner?" asked the groom. The couple were chosen from 210 applicants.

The people most disturbed by virtual victimhood are those who know most about it - the young. The cult cartoon South Park satirised the condition in an episode in which

### Hate the taxman? No, make him a duke

ON THE SIDE

JOE JOSEPH

any people wonder why journalists are among the last people to file their tax returns. In particular, why it is that even now - with only three days to go before we incur mandatory financial penalties from the Inland Revenue for late returns - many of us are still going through the shoebox in which we keep our important financial paperwork and business receipts, desperately trying to calculate

the following.
(a) Why the shoebox is full of old wedding invitations, thank-you letters for parties attended in 1993 but still awaiting a stamp before being posted, children's milk teeth wrapped in tissues and mysteriously hidden here for safe-keeping by the tooth fairy, and

an emergency cache of rub-ber bands large enough to depress Malaysian latex prices were I to offload them on to the free market (which I might).
(b) Whether this means

that we have sent all our earnings details, royalty statements, chits and invoi ces to our friends as wedding presents, or left them under children's pillows in heu of pound coins, or may-be slipped pound coins un-der the pillows of sleeping hostesses to thank them for a weekend stay.
(c) Whether — if none of

the above applies, and provided we are not planning to offset any capital gains li-abilities resulting from the amortisation of agricultural outbuildings against our dividends from foreign debentures - we should just be ticking the "no" box and moving straight on to Ques-tion 16.5 on the tax return? The answer, of course, is that journalists like to work

as close as possible to our deadlines because the adrenatin that courses deadlines occause the antenaim trial courses through our bodies as the clock ticks often triggers the magical phrase that removes all the anxiety from the situation, the phrase being "Put the shoebox away again, quickly".

We also leave everything to the last minute because we are ruthlessly trained to

work with the most recent information available. In this we have made a rod for our own backs, since it is a technique that forces us to rely for information solely on that morning's newspapers (supplemented by plausible gossip invented by a colleague who has just returned from lunch with a minister), regardless of how much we might prefer to spend hours in the library researching a topic.

And this year we have struck lucky, because the laiest tax-payment information — provided by Tony Blair this very week — is that life is about far more than money. The point he is trying to make is that instead of teachers and Inland Revenue staff, we can so easily lionise them instead?

tax collectors that work in the public sector has its own unique rewards — rewards which, in the Prime Minister's own moving

words, "money can't buy".

So, acting on this up-to-the-minute fiscal guidance. I have decided against sending my tax collector another insulting cheque. This year I'm going to reward this worthy public servant in another, more fulfilling way — once again in line with Tony Blair's latest thinking - by making him a life peer.

But just because Downing Street wants to reward public servants with a seat in the Lords, there is no reason that we should also be so timid. I myself intend to go even fur-

ther: in order to give my local tax inspector a little extra vocational satis-faction, as well as some career incentive. I'll also be dropping a subtle hint in my answer to Question 27.14 that should my earnings improve dramatically during the forthcoming tax year, I might well consider making him a marquess in lieu of my 1998-99 tax payment. And if my prospects continue to blossom, who knows, he might find himself a duke before long. This also seems a more

elegant way to conduct the nation's tax affairs. While we are all in favour of taxes and the vital things they are spent on — the National Health Service, belping the unemployed, ensuring there is a always a seat on Concorde for Jack Cunningham - tax collection has be come rather drab. Handing tax inspectors seats in the Lords in lieu of taxes would be more in keeping with Britain's colourful history

of revenue-raising, Income

tax itself is a recent taxpaying convention. If you visited the exhibition held at Somerset House this month to mark the 200th anniversary of income tax, you would have learnt that taxes used to be levied on far less dreary barometers of wealth than cash, such as chimneys, win-dows, hair powder, servants and even dogs.

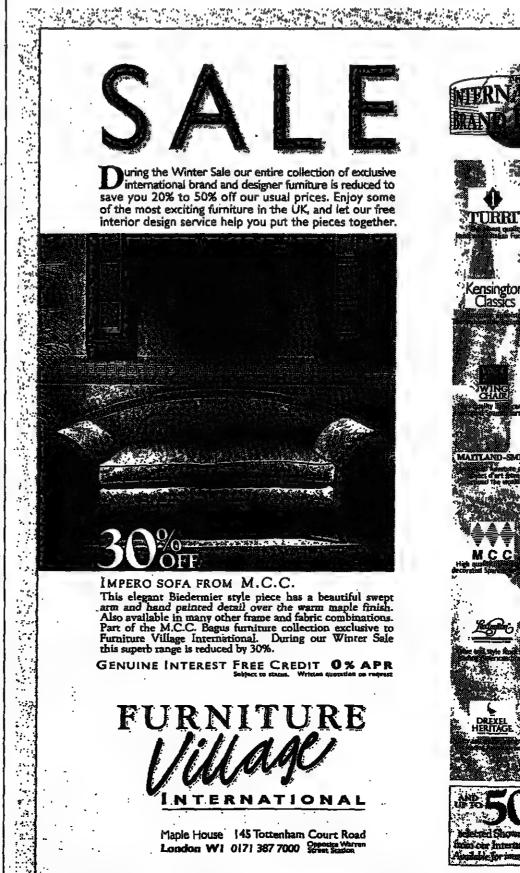
Pooch tax was introduced at the end of the 18th century as one of a range of moneyraising schemes to finance the Napoleonic Wars. Tax assessors would visit your home in the middle of the night, give the front door a kick and then guess at the number of dogs you owned by the volume of barking and by how many shouts appeared at the window, thereby making tax assessors the first people who actually tried to evaluate how much

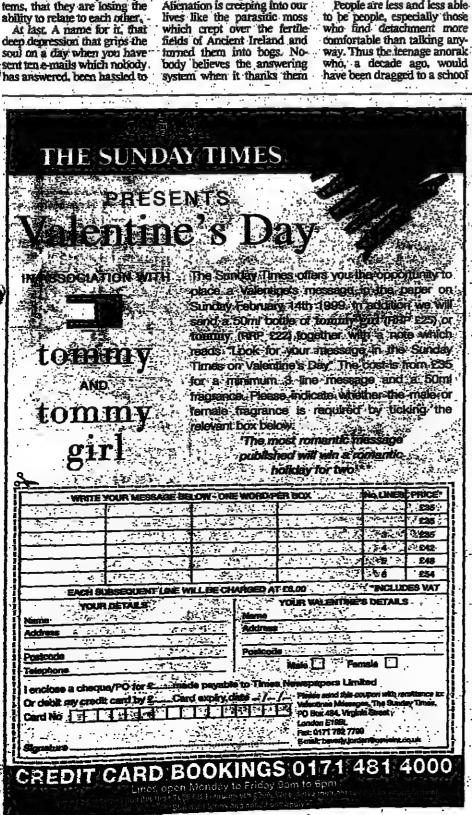
that doggy in the window was worth.

Such dogged behaviour might lead you to
think that all taxmen are mad. But personal-

ly, I think they deserve a medal.

After all, why let them be dogged w





# Sling your hook, Mr Redwood

Hague should have the nerve

to face down his old lags

t was in the summer immediately after the gen-eral election that I first advocated early retirement for the Tory old lags in the Shadow Cabinet. What were they still doing there? Didn't they have homes to go to. wives to see, children to discover, new avenues to pursue? They were patently doing their party no good. Why couldn't they move on and get

The article was written more in friendship than in malice. I know some of the wives concerned and had watched the sacrifices that they had to endure while their husbands were in govern-ment. The men had had a good run, the Michael Howards, Peter Lilleys and John Redwoods of this world, holding many of the great offices of state between them. Why could they not content themselves with their places in history, leave the suffocating and somewhat demeaning world of Shadow frontbench politics, and learn to be care-

free human beings again? For Messrs Howard, Lilley and Redwood must surely know that they will never become party leader, let alone Prime Minister. And assuming that Labour does not lose the next election, which is as sale an assumption in politics as any. William Hague must be prepared to keep them in

his team for another Par-liament and a half. Does John Redwood really want to wait until 2006 just to become Trade and **Industry Secretary?** This week the

Tory party was convulsed by sugges-tions that Mr Hague intended to sack the old guard and bring in some fresh, new talent. From his point of view, that would be exactly the

ly, it seems, he won't. And it does not look as if they will go, of their own accord.

dignity intact. It is easy to see why he appointed them in the first ice. He wanted the other leadership contenders onside to promote a semblance of unity. (Only Kenneth Clarke had the sense to say no.) And, at just 36. Mr Hague needed older and wiser heads to advise him. But what seemed a temporary tiding-over has now set into a permanent mould. Lord Parkinson did his promised year and a quarter: Brian Mawhinney went (what on earth was he doing there in the first place?); but the others cling on, losing the Tories a percentage point in the polls each time they appear on Newsnight. When I was on a Question Time panel recently with John Redwood, I could feel the instant prickly hostility of the audience towards him. So could he: as the evening progressed, his pallor greved and his soowl set hard. Whenever people start to weary of new Labour, they

look at old Tories and despair. Yesterday's MORI poll showed the extraordinary spectacle of Labour rising by two points to its highest level since autumn 1997, and the Conservarives dropping by three, even though voters were highly critical of Labour "sleaze". But the hapless Tory leader still does not get it. He fell into the trap of issuing a strong denial of the reshufile story, thereby ensuring that the old guard's position in the Shadow Cabinet is now stronger than ever. Does he have no inkling of the effect these men have on the public? When I suggest that such reminders of the past are debilitating for the Tories, the rejoinder always comes: then why is Ann Widdecombe so popular? Well, she too was hated until she made her own glorious break with the past by denouncing Mr Howard as having "something of the night about him". Anyone who could say that must surely have something to rec-ommend her. But her colleagues have made no such

f course these old lags could turn against Mr Hague on the back benches and make his life even more miserable. Yesterday, Michael Heseltine was at it. The former Deputy Prime Minister was attacking Mr Hague for the only decent policy the Tories have — indeed the only policy they have at all — opposition to the euro. Mr Hague may fear more of these spats. But he should fear beginn the old should fear keeping the old lags more, for they will never be popular, whereas standing up to them could be. People see these rows as "Tory divi-sions" only if the leader treats

them as threats, not opportunities. The best response Mr Hague has made so far has been to deride his critics as "yester-day's men". It may sound harsh to the party faithful, but it resounds in the country.
You have to sym-Mary Ann

pathise with Mr Siegbart Hague: if these are yesterday's men, it is hard to see

thoughtful, clever ones such as Francis Maude and David Heathcoat-Amory have left no heavier a mark than a fly alighting on a leaf. The layer below them is almost uniformly unimpressive. Mr Hague may have to look to the 1997 intake to refresh his ranks.

But, if he culls the old guard

and distances himself properly from the Major regime, he can turn the affair to his advantage. When Tony Blair took on the Left, he compounded his popularity. These bat-tles, in the hands of a successful leader, are seen not as party divisions, but as brave moves against unpopular foes. The trouble is that Mr Hague, in his complacency, makes the late John Smith look dynamic. His policy review has produced nothing yet, and promises nothing, even in draft, until later this year. Voters may turn against Labour, but they will not transfer their affections to the Tories until they know what the party is for. At the moment, all they see is a bunch of middle-aged men

Hague's party languishes so? maryann.sieghart@the-times.

whom they thought they had

already resoundingly rejected.

Is it any wonder that Mr



# Metroland-on-Avon

used to think houses in the country were for saints or fools. They must be preserved. But they are formnes, ruined marriages and dulled the culture of the mind. Above all they seduced the urban middle class to a Virgilian pretence, that the answer to some overwhelming question lay "in the soil". The weekend flight to the country was a slither back down the evolutionary tree. At the far end of

evolutionary tree. At the far end of the M4 lay only primeval slime. Small wonder youth and enterprise ran screaming to the city. Yet without the country and its houses, townsmen realised they would have nothing to look at on long drives. They panicked. They flattered the occupiers of the land-scape. They subsidised their wurzles and gave them filly Cooper and and gave them filly Cooper and Joanna Trollope. They converted Jane Austen into The Archers and gave Michelin stars to countryhouse hotels. It worked a treat. Since the last war, millions of ving rural England. We owe its custodians, some of them, our thanks not our derision.

Country Life this week publishes a survey of this process as a review of 20 years of house advertisements. It offers a fascinating glimpse of middle-class migration across south-ern England. The story is one of steady colonisation. As agriculture recedes, it is replaced by townies fleeing the city. We see families racing down motorways, estate cars crammed with wellies, crying children and supplies from Marks & Spencer. They peer through the Friday rain in search of that corner of a furtive field that is forever Islington. They must have a place in the country. Everyone they know has a place in the country. Come hell or highwater, they cannot be seen in London at weekends.

The Country Life advertisements plot this exotic invasion. They begin with the heavy guns of the great estates, and end in the railling infantry of old rectories and farm-houses. The battlefield is the terri-. tory over which urban England means to make each new advance. After the last war, the "second-horners" leapfrogged the old suburbs. They read Wodehouse and sought. like Psmith at Blandings, "urbs in rure". They wanted town sophistication but with the social furniture subtly rearranged. They wanted to talk town to "affinity couples", but they also wanted to talk country to the occasional local. They are like

The countryside has become just another stultifying suburban sprawl

During the 1970s the survey has them flooding the North Downs and Chilterns. Surrey. Berkshire and Kent embraced three quarters of all houses advertised in the magazine. Then came the motor-ways and access to what Country Life calls "real country". The Home Counties slumped to just 15 per cent of the total. By the end of the 1980s, buyers were swarming into Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire and North-

amptonshire. The royals did for the

Cotswolds what their Hanoverian forebears had done for Richmond and Kew. In 1970 "a place in Gloucestershire" meant £60,000 with land. By 1990 it was dusted with pure gold at ten times that price. in that decade of royal marriages and Highgrove

chic, the number of houses for sale in that county doubled. Thousands of farmers must have cashed in and vanished. Gloucestershire.

says Country Life, is now eclipsed by points west. A third of the houses surveyed today are in the West Country, territory opened up by the twin salients of the MS and the A303. Dorset and Wiltshire have fallen. Somerset and Devon are the goal. Journey times are near intolerable. There are Londoners who will spend eight hours, an entire working day, travelling to and from a weekend house. There cannot be a hill or dale, a down, combe or marsh in southern England without its colony. They cry with one voice. Can anyone do Taunton in two hours? Where is the "adorable man who 'does' in the village"? Whom do we know and whom can we possibly mix? Where round here can you get decent pate, or a signal for the mobile, or heip?

The houses too have changed. Nobody now wants unconverted houses. Old barns, cortages and windmills are too much hassle. In the 1970s the advertisements never mentioned kitchens. Now they all do, preferably with Agas. Listed too are nanny's rooms, saunas, and swimming pools. Big gardens are a nuisance. Nobody wants land. In 1980, 28 per cent of advertised houses boasted more than ten acres. Just 4 per cent do today. In 1980 a third of the market was for houses with farms. Parms are scarcely mentioned today. Houses are required fully equipped and with

neat, easily managed grounds. In. other words, demand for rural prop-'suburbanised". Where next? With the virtual collapse opment control un-

southern England is set to become Virginia Water from Hyde Park to Land's End. An ersaiz ruralism is spreading the breadth of the land. Nor is the requirement just for weekend retreats. The biggest growth is in medium-sized houses, with four recep-

tion rooms and "family quarters". Buyers are life-changers. They plan four-day weekends, telecommuting, "seeing if we can live in the country while the children are small". Still dependent on the city for income, such buyers, see countryside as a backcloth to a "virtual" urban lifestyle. They want accessible seclusion, a dormitory online to civilisation. They inhabit what geographers call ex-urbia. It is Metroland reborn a hundred miles

Perhaps because I have mostly lived in cities, I find such homes from-home curiously disrupted. Families are neither real town nor real country, but migratory, like diplomats carrying friends and baggage in their car boots. Few have the time or taste for country. pursuits, yet even less for the cultural stimuli and social serendipity of the city. The sparrow on the shoulder is not for them, Thoreau's.

noble epaulette. Yet they constantly bewail that they have no time for art galleries. Theirs is not the majestic talm of Lord Emsworth's pig. It is the restlessness of someone always wortying if he should be at the other end of a motorway.

n the past three years I have visited probably half the villag-es in England. Midweek many of those cited in Country Life advertisements look as if they have been hit by the plague. They are ghostly stage sets, awaiting the arrival of strolling players. You candrive through many villages on a Tuesday or Wednesday and see not like the players. a living soul. For the dormitory suburb, now read the dormitory. landscape. A puppy is not just for Christmas. Perhaps a country erty costing more house is not just for weekends, than £250,000 has Apart from anything else, it asks to be robbed.

Yet this implies as romantic a vision of countryside as does Tom the landscape lies not in breeding some new class of kulaks. It lies in the same newcomers, second-homers. M4 somnambulists and Volve vorticists to whom Genery Life is appealing. Whether we like it or not, these are the true patrons of the new landscape. Without them, the country would be dead. Some will scuttle back to the city, bored out of their minds. But most will leave behind some lucrative flotsam, tenants, work-in-hand, and abandoned spouses with alimony, to prop up the local church and the village store, to comfort the vicar and sponsor the local arts festival. They will finance what the rest of us

After the last war, Oxford's School of Geography surveyed the rural Midlands and concluded that depopulation and free trade would kill it. The farms would fall to rum. The villages would empty. The landscape would return to scrub forest. This could not have been more wrong. The English country-side has pulled off one of the coups of economic history. Unable to support itself, it has sucked taxes and attention out from the city. It has beguiled; seduced and often impoverished any who might find urban life too tough a challenge. Hundreds of thousands of Britons pour into the countryside every weekend, hurling themselves in

sacrifice on the altar of ruralism. comment@the-times.co.uk



# Ffion's. switch

FRION JENKINS nearly became an MP—in the Liberal Democratinterest: William Hague's good lady wife was headhunted by the Lib Dems as an election candidate shortly before William caught hereye. As a spirited member of the Taffia (she was a private secretary in the Welsh Office and her father. Emyr. is chief executive of the Welsh Arts Council), she was seen by local party workers as a prime by local party workers as a prime candidate to take over from Alex Cartile.

Carlile.

He said he was giving up his Montgumery seat in June 1996 to spend more time with his family and his jucrative billet at the Bar. The proposal was put to Flion, and it was several days before the Lib n was several days octore the lid.
Dems were told to seek another candidate. By December 1996 she was being squired by William, and Lembit Opik — now an outside candidate for the party leadership — had secured the nomination.

 HEREDITARY peers are suc-cumbing to their Armageddon with gusta. Lord Strathclyde, the toff leader of the Conservatives (below), tells me he is considering calling his new daughter Biankaaa, after the eloquent EastEnder (below).



#### Talking back

BREAKFAST sofa wars: Charlie Whelan is to take on Richard and Judy. Gordon Brown's erstwhile spin-doctor is to present a daytime chat show on Channel 4.

Whelan will guill former victims (Labour ministers etc) and give a beginner is guide to spinology. "I am hoping to get Mr Blair and Mr Hagge, by angears", be fells me.

Hague to appear be fells me. Mandelson, as I first disclosed, is too busy house hunting.

JOHNNY DEPP seems to share the sensible shoe brigade's passion for Monet. Dressed in foppish beret and paggy shirt, the actor waltzed into a Soho art shop with a svelte French muse and demanded the largest canvas in the shop.

#### Food fight

PROTESTERS against genetically modified food will deliver 1,000 letters to No 10 next week. But their companions, a six-legged pantomime cow and a motant, fish-tailed tomato will be excluded for "secu-THY TEASONS".

● JAMIE CANN'S admission that sex takes no more than 2 per cent of a Labour MP's life did not surprise colleagues. As a man who gained the nickname of "Canned" after a drink-drive conviction, he clearly enjoys other entertainments more.



#### Good act

THE distinction between appearance and reality: an early philosophical lesson. A well-constructed blonde raced from the first night of Oklahoma! to the cast party to seduce the leading man. Hugh Jackman, who plays a swaggering cowboy. "Imagine that deep voice singing in the bath," she coocd. So imagine her reaction when she saw a preening thesp in a white cravat.

 ROGER BLACK finds his job as the presenter of a BBC low fat health video so dispiriting that the sprinter runs from the film.crew to revive himself with chocoldte.

#### Broad vision

TONY BANKS: polymath. "I like Emile Zola and Gianfranco Zola. but national morale is boosted by wins on the football pitch more than operas at Covent Garden."

JASPER GERARD

#### 'Anachronistic, no doubt, but demmit, what could be more fun than a warm bath of stylish tosh on a Sunday night?"

ud, Madam! It's "That demned, elusive Pimpernel" Demned, demned, not damned. The BBC television cloak-and-dagger. Tricolour-and-tripe, guillotine-and-galliard historicals about the Scarlet Pimpernel on Sunday nights drives me back to the children's bookshelf. And what tosh the books and the programmes are. But what enjoyable tosh for those of us who cannot meet a swash without wondering how it would perform when buckled.

And part of the attraction is their camp and unconvincing Regency court jargon. Odd's life and La-de-da! Demned was not how Regency bucks pronounced it. But the Baroness Orczy version is what sticks in the childhood memory. It was batty of the Beeb to chuck away the barb of the plot by letting us know from the beginning that the Scarlet Pimpernel is Sir Percy

Blakeney. That is meant to come as a shock to the simple. Parbleu. And kitting Sir Percy out with a James Bond set of secret tools in his underwear is simply ridiculous. That Old Harrovian fop, whose clothes were the talk of the jeunesse dorée of London. would never have allowed such a bulky tricoteuse's huswife to spoil the cut of his shot satin knickerbockers.

If you want a thrilling but historical account of the French Revolution in English, you do better to read The Tale of Two Cities, Hilary Mantel, Richard Cobb or Carlyle. Orczy is so infatuated with aristos that she ignores the rights of man and the causes of the Revolution. Remember La Bruyère's crashing crescendo on peasants before the Revolution: "L'on voil certains animaux farouches. . ." These wild animals, male and female, black, sun-scorched and livid, grubbing in the mud with invincible stubbornness. When they stand up, they have human faces. Howard lieve this, but they are human beings. In spite (because?)

of being a shady Hungarian aristo by birth, Orczy is crashingly chauvinist and snobbish about England. Her frequent

references to the Englishness of certain qualities itself sounds distinctly unEnglish. Marguerite is continually referred to as "the most intelligent woman in Eu-rope", but this claim is never substantiated by anything she does or says. Nor by the appar-ent Wonderbra models who have played her, since Merle Oberon in the 1934 film that made the names of Leslie Howard and

Raymond Massie The books and television are sport for anachronism-watchers, as when Sir Percy Blakeney hums a ballad by

Edgar Allan Poe. The discreet erotic passion is even farther over the top in print than on the screen. In the made of most beroes of lorgnette-bodice-

ogiers, unknown to Marguerie. Percy is besorted with her. "He was but a man, blindly, passionately in love, and as soon as ber light footstep had died away within the house, he knelt down on the terrace steps, and in the very madness of his love he kissed one by one the places where her small foot had trodden, and the stone belustrade

there where her tiny hand had

But historical romances are a fine genre, if we leave our Virgil and Geoffrey of Monmouth, Walter Scott is a lively introduction to medieval Scotland and Ivanhoe gadzookery. Our young imaginations are attracted to Romans by Puck of Pook's Hill and I. Claudius: to Hadrian by Yournear; to Harold and Normans by The Golden Warrior. Gone With the Wind and Lampedusa: Rose Macaulay on Herrick's Devonshire and Milton's

rested last." Cor. Or rather,

Zounds and demmit, citoyen.

War, Renault and Sutcliff. . . . istorical novelists can personalise, take sides, omit the boring bits. romanticise, delight, fill in the gaps with inventions. When they know their history, they can bring it to life and lead us on to the real thing, such as the

Cambridge on the eve of the Civil

Osborne letters or Gibbon. Most of us are more interested in people than in abstractions, in human nature than economics or . In this game, the Scarlet Pimpernel plays nowhere near the premier league. But his

success on stage and screen is a phenomenon. As a little-known writer. Orczy was offered £30 for all rights by a niggardly publisher. Haughtily (cannily?) she turned him down. And in the following year the stage produc-tion made Sir Percy the star he has remained Chauvelin is a deliciously complex villain. And those things do best please me. That do fall preposterously. The best in this kind are but shadows; and the worst are no worse. If imagination amend them. So on Sunday night, before the rigours of Monday morning, a warm bath of stylish tosh is just what the Revolution ordered

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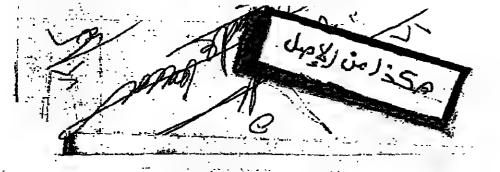
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#### THE BELL DEBATE

The Lords, The Times and complaints against the press

When The Times serialised Cries Unheard, Gitta Sereny's book about the child murderer Mary Bell, last spring, we knew that our decision would be controversial The crimes were terrible; so was the deprived childhood that shaped the killer. We knew that some of our readers would. feel strongly that we were wrong, the more so because money had been paid to Bell for co-operating with the author. Sharp emotions were then aroused by the hounding. by tabloid newspapers, of Mary Bell, forcing her to reveal her true identity to her innocent daughter. We went ahead with serialisation, not lightly, but because we were convinced that a clearer understanding of the making of young murderers, and their subsequent handling by the penal system, is firmly in the public interest, and that this book made an important contribution to that necessary exploration.

Last July, after exhaustive inquiry, the

Press Complaints Commission (PCC) found that The Times had acted entirely within the voluntary code of journalistic practice which it is our firm policy to respect. But so central was the case to questions of freedom, responsibility and the public interest in a democracy that discussion continues. We publish today an extended report of Wednesday night's thoughtful debate on this subject in the House of Lords. The purpose of Lord McNally, who initiated the debate, extended far beyond his seemingly narrow question about "liaison" between the Home Office and the PCC. He sought to make a case for widening the PCC's duties to intervene even when the offended parties do not, as the Bell family did not, lodge a complaint; to give it quasi-judicial powers, including those to impose punitive fines; and for a law to prohibit direct or indirect payments to criminals outright, without the possibility of a public interest defence. The ensuing debate, for which the Lords mustered great legal and practical exper-tise, not only vindicated the stance of The Times in this particular case. The arguments advanced are a necessary corrective to those who, for the sincerest of motives. would wish to see the already extensive restrictions on freedom of information in this country further tightened by statute.

rehearsed the grounds for its decision that, in the Bell case, there was an "overwhelming" case for scrialisation. The public interest," he said, "oozes from every pore of the book and in turn from the extracts from it which were serialised." It was "the first authoritative account of how the penal system deals with child criminals" and, as such, "was important and deserved a wide audience". It was a view that found broad and authoritative support. Equally significant, on civil rights grounds and in terms. of Article 10 of the European Convention, were the caveats about a blanket ban on payments to criminals: And although the harassment of Mary Bell appailed their lordships as much as it appalled this newspaper at the time, the debate showed wide understanding that an expansion of the PCC's powers could create more problems, especially for those who cannot afford lawyers, than it would solve.

During the extensive debates on incorporating the European Convention, Lord Wakeham eventually managed to convince the Government that to give the PCC legal powers would be incompatible with selfregulation. It would undermine the PCC's authority with the newspapers which it polices, an authority which Lord Wakeham has greatly reinforced. For the Government, Lord Williams of Mostyn acknowledges that the PCC code already bars the press from making payments to criminals or their associates except where publication is "in the public interest and payment is necessary for this to be done". That, he said, set a "high hurdle" for The Times - as it does for any newspaper. We would not wish it to be lower.

or not, as the Bell family did not, lodge a complaint, to give it quasi-judicial powers, aciding those to impose punitive fines; inclifer a law to prohibit direct or indirect agracents to criminals outright, without majorents in this particular tase. The arguments in this particular tase. The arguments advanced are a necessary corrective of those who, for the sincerest of motives, ould wish to see the already extensive estrictions on freedom of information in his country further tightened by statute.

Lord Wakeham, the PCC's chairman,

#### **POLLS APART**

The quality of public services is Blair's real challenge

Twenty months beyond a landslide victory. Tony Blair and his Government continue to defy the laws of political gravity. In the Prime Minister's case it seems that what goes up stays there. After a month in which the assorted antics of Peter Mandelson, Geoffrey Robinson, Charlie Whelan and Robin Cook have rightly dominated the headlines, even committed supporters of the Labour Party assumed that there might be some modest impact on public opinion. In fact, as the MORI polls published in The Times over the past two days have illustrated, the Government has not only survived the events of the past four weeks but emerged with enhanced popularity.

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This is not to suggest that the country has neither noticed nor disapproved of the display that has been placed before it. More than half of the electorate believes that the Government has not upheld high standards in public life - a sharp decline from the 55 per cent approval on this issue recorded in November 1997. These are not insignificant numbers. And yet the Mandelson affair appears to have reinforced cynicism about politics and politicians in general rather than about Mr Blair and his colleagues. On this, as many other matters, the Conservative Party has not yet rendered itself sufficiently credible with voters to benefit from the Cabinet's discomfort.

The other factor that may explain the extension of this longest of honeymoons concerns perceptions of the economy. The index of confidence (the balance between those with positive and negative economic expectations), which slumped dramatically last summer and reached the extraordinary low point of minus 46 points in October, has revived to stand at only half that level today. A full-blown recession would still be a powerful threat to Labour's standing. The Government may well,

however, be able to accommodate any

slowdown short of such a slump.

Every set of silver linings has a cloud and for Mr Blair the most potent test may prove to be not mass unemployment but expectations of an improvement in the quality of public services. The Government is entering what the Prime Minister has described as "the year of delivery". There is plenty of evidence in our poll that the country is impatiently expecting signs of progress in these quarters. The conditions in the National Health Service (49 per cent), and education/schools (32 per cent), have become the top two issues for the electorate. Some 47 per cent of voters do not believe

that the Government has kept its pre-election -promises. Discontent is sharply focused on these key areas. But there is little prospect that the Government will throw pots of money at the problems. Cordon Brown made it clear to both Cabinet and House of Commons yesterday that the public sector pay settlements to be announced early next week must be met within the cash limits that he set six months ago. The fragile balance of the economy has left him little alternative. This means that increased salaries will come at the expense of other initiatives. That in turn will limit ministers' freedom of manoeuvre.

For the past two years the Government has been at liberty to pass blame for public discontent with such services to its predecessor. The end of this period is fast approaching. At that point, if present policies have not persuaded the public of real change, the Government will have to choose between more expenditure and more radicalism. Without a compelling alternative, this may not greatly diminish new Labour's popularity; but it will reveal much more about the political character of the Prime Minister and his Government.

#### SOME LIKE IT COLD

Winter in Britain is a terrible disappointment

Where are the snows of yesteryear? Already the days are getting longer, the daffodils are pushing through the earth, the winds are blowing temperately from the South West and, apart from Scotland, barely a flake of snow has fallen. Shakespeare's winter of icicles hanging by the wall is an ancestral memory; Victorian scenes of fur-clad ladies, snowy taverns and snorting horses prancing through the snow now seem more unreal than mawkish. There is as much chance of sunbathing in January as there is of building a snowman. Put away the padded anoraks and take off those fur hats: there is no bracing chill to be kept at bay, merely the dinging damp of the latest depression to settle over the British Isles.

For those tired of slush, thaw and premature blooms, Scandinavia may be a last refuge. Lapland has just endured the coldest night in a century, with temperatures of -SIC. That is off the scale for

oid-fashioned mercury thermometers, and can be measured only by alcohol-based ones. But in such cold, little alcohol is likely to be left undrunk. The Lapps are a hardy lot, but even they find it irksome when power lines snap, sledge dogs have to stay indoors and trains will not stop because the airbrakes fail. The Finns, however, came up with an indigenous solution: they lit their saunas, took off their clothes and spent the night in steamy nudity.

Surviving winter's grip is still a chal-

Surviving winter's grip is still a challenge in these northern lands. The temperate British sometimes long for extremes. Some recent summers, thoughnot the last, have approached Mediterranean heat. But winters are a disappointment. Will Britons ever again be able to roast onen on the Thames? When will blood be nipped, ways be foul and milk come frozen home in pail? To everything a season: our land may be green and pleasant, but surely not in winter. Some like it cold.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

#### 'Bill restrictive of news reporting'

From the President of the Guild of Editors

Sir, As drafted, the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill, now before a Commons committee (letters, January 25), would have made it impossible to report in any meaningful way the Dunblane massacre, nursery nurse Lisa Potts's heroism or the murder of head teacher Philip Lawrence.

The Bill would have prevented full

The Bill would have prevented full reporting of the case against Jonathan Aitken for putting lies into a statement by his teenage daughter at a libel trial.

It would also have prevented the

It would also have prevented the newspaper which I edit, The News of Portsmouth, from identifying the three teenage occupants of the car involved in a recent crash with a minibus outside Waterlooville, Hampshire, in which three people were killed (report, January 6). A fortnight later we are still receiving calls and letters thanking us for revealing their names.

In all these stories, the common factor is the involvement of people under the age of 18 whose identities, even as victims or witnesses, would be protected from the time of any allegation by the intended new law. The Bill would seem to ensure the disappearance of an entire generation from the news reports of almost any form of crime or potentially criminal activity.

This imbalance between shielding vulnerable young people and disclosing, in the public interest, events in which they have become involved is being resisted by editors.

From my own experience in Portsmouth it seems the public are firmly on our side, resenting the imposition of any more restrictive laws which will enable people to escape accountability for their actions.

Yours etc, GEOFF ELLIOTT, President, Guild of Editors, Bloomsbury House, 74-77 Great Russell Street, London WCIB 3DA. January 28.

#### Pinochet proceedings

From Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, Rarely can there have been a case attracting more widespread public interest than the proceedings before the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords in the Pinochet affair (reports, January 19 to 22).

The Appellate Committee is a com-

mittee of that House; the televising of its proceedings is, therefore, not proscribed by the Criminal Justice Act 1925.

We saw their Lordships voting in the Chamber after the conclusion of the earlier Pinochet proceedings in November: but would not the current proceedings have been an occasion on which to experiment with the televising of actual judicial proceedings in this country?

Another opportunity is bound to rise.

Yours faithfully, LOUIS BLOM-COOPER, 138 Offord Road, NI JPF. January 22.

#### Ancient titles

From the Countess of Mar

Sir, in reply to his own question, "Who can lay claim to the oldest title in the Lords?", Alan Hamilton (report, January 21) puts forward Lord de Ros, whose title dates from 1264, and Lord Mowbray, Segrave and Stourton (1983)

May I respectfully point out that, although Scottish peers were not admitted to the House of Lords until after the Act of Union of 1707, the Earldom of Mar was created in 1114, predating the baronies of Mowbray and Segrave by 169 years?

As the thirty-first holder of the title, I am also an active member of the House of Lords.

Yours faithfully, MAR. House of Lords. January 21.

#### All at sea

From Miss Alison Clayton Sir, Your report (January 25) on the

professionalism of women serving in the Royal Navy off Sierra Leone starts, "Drying panties have replaced pin-ups in HMS Norfolk's cabins". This undermines not only the advances women have made in the Navy since 1991 but the credibility of the report.

I am at a loss to understand what relevance there is, if any, between women's laundry and the work undertaken by both men and women serving within a difficult operational environment.

Yours faithfully, ALISON CLAYTON, 163 Brighton Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 ZYH. alison.clayton@janes.co.uk January 25.

Letters that are intended for publication should earry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

#### Viewers' choice on television sex

From Lady Howe of Aberavon. Chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Commission

Sir, No broadcaster likes to be criticised, and David Elstein (letter, January 27) makes, as usual, a spirited defence of Channel 5's position on transmitting "erotic fiction". But can put the decision of the Broadcasting Standards Commission in context?

The commission has a responsibility under the Broadcasting Act to identify what it sees as developing trends within broadcasting (in this case with regard to the use of sex), to identify what its consequences might be, and to stimulate legitimate public debate.

Our most recent research, Sex and Sensibility, published this month (details, January 7), showed clearly that audiences expect sexual portrayal to be justified by its context, whether in drama or a factual programme. This research, in line with that conducted by the ITC, also suggests there is a different expectation about what should be available on free-to-air, as opposed to pay television. The commission took the research findings into account when reaching its conclusions. All of this is a long way, both in time and in tone, from the trial of Lady

Chatterley's Lover.

After much careful discussion, the commission reached findings on the specific programmes which were the subject of complaint, including sexual violence in a film. Centerfold, not mentioned by Mr Elstein. In our judgment the point of these programmes was clearly erotic. These findings are consistent with our recently revised code. We acted throughout within the mandate given by Parliament. There

has been no abuse of procedures.

A commitment to "uncut movies" in a licence application is not the same as a specific promise of erotic films, as Mr Elstein appears to believe. But that is between Channel 5 and the

TTC.
The commission works openly and independently. The decisions of the

commissioners, all publicly appointed, can be in favour of the broadcaster as well as the complainant. They are all published with an account of the reasoning that lies behind them. That is a useful and important public service on sensitive issues which are a matter of legitimate public interest but about which opinion is divided. The issue is not the commission's relevance but whether the public

should have a right to redress.
Yours faithfully,
ELSPETH HOWE,
Chairman, Broadcasting
Standards Commission,
7 The Sanctuary, SWIP 3JS.
January 27.

From the Director of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association

Sir, It is evident from the sexually explicit programmes and films screened by Channels 4 and 5 that the Independent Television Commission's pro-

gramme code is defective.

It is, for instance, beyond understanding how the content of the recent 13-part series on Channel 5, Sex and Shopping, and Renegade tv: Sex Pests, transmitted by Channel 4 last October, comply either with Section 1.5 of the ITC code which states

The portrayal of sexual behaviour and of nuclity needs to be defensible in content and

nudity needs to be defensible in content and presented with tact and discretion or with the Broadcasting Act, which requires that programmes should not offend "good taste or decreev".

offend "good taste or decency".

What is needed, above all, is a regulatory authority which will devise a well-defined code and will have the strength and conviction to enforce it for the common good.

Yours faithfully, JOHN C. BEYER, Director, National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, All Saints House, High Street, Colchester, Essex COI IUG. nationalvala@compuserve.com January 27.

#### Demand for new farm outlets

From Ms Nina Planck

Sir, Noting agriculture's declining importance to the economy, the Agriculture Select Committee suggests that farmers find something else to do (report, January 20). Collapsing farm prices are bad enough; now farmers must expect less cash support from

the EU.

It is true that subsidies — which have led to overproduction and thus to lower prices and rural job losses — are part of the problem. But farmers don't need a new line of work. They need new markets. As the recent success of farmers' markets in more than 15 English towns demonstrates — notably in Bath and Bristol — new customers are both numerous and

The definition of a farmers' market is crucial: the seller must grow everything himself. Such markets have greatly bene-fited small and medium-sized farms in the US: the farmer reaps retail prices (often three times higher than wholesale), the shopper buys fresh, local foods, and the countryside stays economically productive, without recourse to tourism and theme parks.

Rural incomes and employment rise -- all without government help.

Yours sincerely, NINA PLANCK, Islington Farmers' Market, 6 St Paul Street, London NI 7AB, January 20.

#### Furry friendships

From Mr John Hanner

Sir, I cannot agree that, as the subheading on Matthew Parris's article, "Furry friendships" (January 23), put it, "a fanatical devotion to animals is a disturbing sign of a damaged personality". It may be the reverse."

Impassivity towards animals and creatures generally would likely extend itself to the human species. Affection and fondness is a de-

sirable trait and is of considerable benefit to creatures, humans and the donor.

(The article is also at variance with the author's previous item, "In love with llamas", of November 21, 1997.)

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HANNER,
Little Cefn Coed,
Kingcoed, Raglan,
Monmouth NP5 IDS.
jhmoncadw@aol.com
January 24.

#### Online MPs

From Mr Nicolas Owen

Sir. The problem with e-mail in general and publicising e-mail addresses of Members of Parliament in particular (letter, January 27) is that anyone with five minutes spare and nothing 10 do can create needless work and expense for others by sending trivial messages that require acknowledge-

ment.
This being a classic case in point.
Yours faithfully,

Yours Rathituly,
NICOLAS OWEN,
1 Bruce Grove,
Orpington, Kent BR6 OHF.
n.owen@mcmail.com.
January 27.

The second secon

From the Editor of Farmers Weekly Sir, I take exception to your leading article of January 20, "Farming fash-

ions", in which you attack Farmers Weekly for "belatedly" announcing that "organic systems have come of age".

If your suggestion that the few hundred people who shop at Spital-fields market reflect a long-standing

fields market reflect a long-standing demand were true, consumers would not need to trek to Spitalfields: a full range of organic food would be available in their local high street store.

The fact that this is not so reflects most consumers' indifference to organ-

most consumers' indifference to organic production. Although it may sell well in Hampstead and Islington, how many people in Hull or Ipswich care about organic food? All the evidence suggests not many.

Farmers Weekly jealously guards

its reputation as a fiercely independent magazine, serving the whole farming industry. We are not, as you allege, "in large part financed by the advertising of agrochemical industries": Less than a third of our revenue is

derived from display advertising, and agrochemical companies account for a small proportion of that revenue.

Yours sincerely, STEPHEN D. HOWE, Editor, Farmers Weekly, Quadrant House, The Quadrant. Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. January 21.

#### Christians in India

From Mr Randhir Singh Bains

Sir, Your leader today, "Christians in peril", rightly expresses concern over the plight of Christians in India. However, I query your conclusion that "Christians are vulnerable precisely because they are so few" (2.6 per cent); Sikhs constitute an even smaller minority (2 per cent), yet have so far escaped the Hindu fundamentalists' religious wrath.

Christians are being picked on because, according to the fundamentalists, they are the agents of Western imperialism. Even the Prime Minister could not help doubting their loyalty to India when he wrote in The Organiser, the BJP journal (May 7, 1995), that "the other task is to assimilate the non-Hindus, like Musitms and Christians, in the mainstream. They must have a feeling of parriotism for this country."

It is statements like these which are largely responsible for instigating violence and intimidation against the Christian and Muslim minorities in India.

Yours faithfully, RANDHIR SINGH BAINS, 34 Shere Road, Gants Hill, Essex IG2 6TG. January 26.

From Mr John Young

Sir, "History associates religious persecutions with weak leaders", according to your leading article. Henry VIII? Elizabeth I? Cromwell? Stalin? Hitler?

JOHN YOUNG.
37 Dewhurst Road, W14 0ES.
johnyo@easynet.co.uk
January 26.

### Rewriting history to suit the screen

From Dr Munro Price

Sir, Simon Jenkins (The camera often lies", January 22) is right: the increasingly cavalier attitude of British film and television to basic historical fact is getting hard to take.

historical fact is getting hard to take.

The latest instance, BBCI's dram offering of The Scarlet Pimpernel, inhabits a fantasy world in which Robespierre was in power and the Terror in place in 1792, and France governed by a body, so far unknown to historians, named the Committee of

General Surveillance (sic).

Though one accepts the need for some dramatic licence, the current tendency reveals a basic contempt for education and knowledge of the past; it piles on the solecisms, perhaps assuming that we are far too ignorant to notice the distortions we witness, and that if some of us do, we no longer

As a teacher of history, who feels strongly that a fair and accurate sense of the past is important for the health of any society, I find this discouraging.

Yours faithfully, MUNRO PRICE, Department of European Studies, University of Bradford, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD7 1DP, January 24.

#### Unmistakably British

From Mr Duncan Francies

Sir, Philip Howard is right (article, January 22): Britishness is unmistakable. I have lived almost two years in this charming country, trying every day to be accepted as just another ordinary Greek guy. But the more I

try the less I succeed.

Is it my slightly pink face and lack of decisive authority? Is it my ancient Burberry in the winter or M&S slacks in the summer? Should I chew gum and smoke cigarettes? Should I get angry and wave my arms about when they refuse to speak back to me in

Greek?

And why do they speak English anyway, not French, German, Italian or Albanian? If anyone can tell me what it is about me that declares my nationality with such certainty at a hundred paces, please tell me. I will

change it at once.
Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN FRANCIES,
17 Himaras Street,
Politeia, 145 62 Athens,
January 22.

From Miss Gabrielle Higgins

Sir, Philip Howard is mistaken on the subject of croquet. It is in fact played in the US. Australia, South Africa. Egypt, Spain and France, to name

only a selection of countries.

What marks croquet out among games invented in Britain is that the British have remained the best in the

Yours faithfully.
GABRIELLE HIGGINS
(Secretary.
Oxford University Croquet Club).
Merton College, Oxford OXI 41D.
gabrielle higgins@
merton.oxford.ac.uk

January 23.

Owners' rights
From Mr Sam Gratton

Sir, The legal advice offered me by Mr Neil Howlett (letter, January 20), regarding the discovery that a shabby "antiques shop" below a flat I had intended to purchase was in fact a brothel, was as informative as it was irrelevant.

Far from being a drawback, the proximity of the brothel was a welcome bonus. It was, as your article in Weekend (January 9) made clear, the prospect of it being converted to a kebab shop that worried me.

Yours etc SAM GRATTON, 51 Drayton Gardens, South Kensington, SW10 9RX. sam gratton@hotmail.com January 21.

#### A day to remember

From Mr R. K. Ellis

Sir, Is it spin, or merely a slip, that the entry of the UK into the Common Market in 1972 should be listed under Deaths in your Anniversaries column today?

R. K. ELLIS, 2 St Elmos Road, SEI6 ISA. January 22.

#### Ungrateful taxman

From Dr Vivien Noakes

Sincerely yours,

Sir, As the January 31 deadline for the submission of tax returns approaches, what a morale lift it would be if, instead of threats of fines for late delivery, the Inland Revenue were to write to each one of us at the end of the year to say thank you for the hard work and often long hours which have made possible our donation to

the national coffers.

Yours faithfully.

VIVIEN NOAKES.

146 Hamilton Terrace, NW8 9UX.

#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE January 28: By command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Veatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Professor Mohamed Ben Ahmed, at 29 Prince's Gate. London SW7, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Republic of Tunisia.

ST JAMES'S PALACE famuary 28: The Prince of Wales, Patron, Wateraid, this evening atended a dinner for supporters. BUCKINGHAM PALACE January 28: The Princess Royal Patron, Victim Support Scotland, this morning attended the launch of the Victim Support City of Clasgow Service at the Victim Support Offices, 10 Joseph Square, Glasgow, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow (Mr Pat Lally, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

#### Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will visit Elstree Film Studios at Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, and open its new sound stages at 11.05; as patron, British Film Institute, will visit its National Film and Television Archive Conservation Centre at Berkhamsted and present Sir Paul Centy with a BFI Fellowship, at 12.30; and will open the recently restored Spirella Building in Letch-worth Garden City which, as part of a regeneration initiative, now houses new businesses, at 3.05. The Duke of York will open a new swimming pool complex at the Marist School at Sunninghill, Berkshire, at 200.

#### Breakfast

Asian Business Network Breakfast

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was the guest of honour at a business breakfast given by the Asian Business Network at the Regency Hotel, Oueens Gate, London, on Wednesday. Mr Keith Vaz, MP, presided. Sir Peter Bonfield. Chief Executive of British Telecommunications, gave an address. Among those present were:

Among those present were:
The High Conmissioner for India, the Turkish Ambassador, the Ambassador of Onsan, the High Contraissioner for Bangladash, Mr Harshinder Singh, Sir Andrew Turnball, Mr De Gulad, Mr John Caine, Sir Anwer Pervez, Mr That Holder, Mr Bangladash, Mr John Caine, Sir Anwer Pervez, Mr That Holley, Mr Bul Lounda, Mr Devid John, Mr Stephen Herring, Mr Brace Downdon, Mr Visus Bhanisa, Mr Sandy Walkington, Mr Visus Bhanisa, Mr Sandy Walkington, Mr High Merrill and Mr Shand Ahmed.

#### Mass Media Unit, 61 Southpark Avenue, Glasgow. The Princess Royal subsequent-

Her Royal Highness this after-

noon visited the University of

Glasgow Media Group at the

ly visited the University of Strathclyde to officially open the Institute of Biomedical Sciences at 27 Taylor Street, Glasgow. Her Royal Highness, President,

Save the Children Fund, later received a donation from the Strathclyde Police whilst visiting their Headquarters at 173 Pitt Street, Glasgow. The Princess Royal this evening

attended a Dinner given by the Glasgow City Council at the Banqueting Hall, City Chambers, George Square, Glassow, to receive The Loving Cup award for her significant contribution to Glasgow and her encouragement to organisations supporting disad-vantaged individuals.

#### Birthdays today

Dr R.C. Alston, bibliographer, 66; Mr Malcolm Binns, concert pian-ist, 63; Mr Lestie Bricusse, composer and lyricist, 68; Mr Peter Byrne, actor, 71; Lord Clyde, 67; Dr Alex actor, 7i; Lord Clyde, 67; Dr Alec Coppen, psychiatrist, 76; Miss Susan Douglas, former Editor, Sunday Express, 42; the Right Rev Charles Fitzgerald-Lombard, former Abbot of Downside, 58; Mr John Gallagher, rugby league player, 35; Dr Germaine Greer, author, 60; Lord Gregson, 75; Professor F.R. Hartley, Vice-Chan-cellor, Cranfield University, 57; Mr cellor, Cranfield University, 57; Mr Paul Hodder-Williams, publisher,

89; Earl Howe, 48. Mr John Junkin, actor and writer, 69: Mr Sean Kerly, hockey player, 39; Mrs Margaret Laird, Third Church Estates Commission-er, 66; Lord Lane of Horsell, 74; Mr Michael Mavor, Head Master, Rugby School, 52: Sir Richard Needham, former MP, 57; Mr James Nicholson, MEP, 54; Mr Andy Roberts, former cricketer, 48; Mr Tom Selleck, actor, 54; Mr Raman Subba Row, former chairman, Test and County Cricket Board, 67; Mr Brian Trubshaw, former test pilot, 75.

#### Loriners' Company

The Loriners' Company armound the appointment of Mr Graham B. Forbes, FRICS, CC, as Clerk to the Company following the retirement of Mr John R. Williams, FCA.

#### **Anniversaries**

BIRTHS: Emmanuel Swedenhorg, philosopher, Stockholm, 1688; Daniel Bernoulli, mathematician, Grophilosopher, Stockholm, 1688; Dan-iel Bernoulli, mathematician, Groningen, 1700: Thomas Paine, radical and writer. Thetford, Norfolk, 1737: Henry Neele, poet, London. 1798; Sir James Outram, general, Bulterley Hall, Derbyshire, 1803; William McKinley, 25th American President 1897-1901, Niks, Ohio, 1843: Sir Ebenezer Howard, ploneer of garden cities, London, 1850; Anton Chekhov, playwright, Taga-rov, Russia, 1860; Frederick Delius, composer, Bradford, 1862; Romain Rolland, novelist, Nobel laurease 1915. Clamecy, France, 1866: Vicente Blasco (barlez, writer Havergal Brian, composer, Dres-den, Staffordshire, 1876; W.C. Fields, actor and comedian. Phila-

Ill, reigned 1760-1820, Windsor, 1820; Edward Lear, poet and artist. San Remo, Italy, 1888; Alfred Sisley, painter, Monet-sur-Loing, 1899; Douglas Haig, 1st Earl Haig, field marshal, London, 1928; James Bridie (Osborne Henry Mavor), dramatist, Edinburgh, 1951; Henry Louis Mencken, writer, Baltimore, Maryland, 1956; Fritz Kreisler, violinist, New York, 1962; Robert Frost, poet, Boston, Massachusens, 1963; Jimmy Durante, actor and comedian. California, 1980. King George IV acceded to the throne, 1820.

The Victoria Cross was instituted. Desert Island Discs was first broadcast by the BBC, 1942.



Anna Tribe, great-great-great-granddaughter of Nelson and Lady Hamilton, comes face to face with a striking new model of the great man, the centrepiece of Nelson: The Hero and The Man, an exhibition which opened yesterday at the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth. The model, based on a face mask made in Vienna when he was still alive and on research by museum staff, is thought to be the most lifelike ever made of the admiral

#### Luncheons

Glovers' Company Alderman Sir Paul Newall, the Anderman Sir Paul Newall, the Lord Mayor locum tenens, accom-panied by Mr Sheriff and Mrs Brian Harris, was presented with a suite of gloves by Mr Malcolm. Penney, Master of the Glovers' Company, at a luncheon held yesterday at Carpenters' Hall,

During the luncheon the Lord Mayor locum tenens presented the prizes to the winners of the British Glove Association's annual design competition and also the shield awarded annually to the holder of the Glovers' Bursary at Cordwainers' College.
The Masters and Clerks of the

Leathersellers', Girdlers', Sad-dlers', Cordwainers', Curriers' and the Coachmakers' and Coach Har-ness Makers' Companies were umong the guests.

National Sporting Club Mr Tony Banks, Minister for Sport, was the guest of honour at a hurcheon of the National Sporting Club held yesterday at the Cafe Royal. Mr David Willis, club chairman, presided. London Mayors' Association

The London Mayors' Association entertained Mr Slavko Linik, Mayor of Rijik, Croatia, at a luncheon yesterday at the Oceana Restaurant, Wigmore Street, London, Wt. Councillor Robert Davis, executive chairman, presided. Among others present were

The Mayor and Mayoreas of Lewisham, Mr Louis Segal, Mrs Margaret Calcott-James, Councillor Roussy Raymond-Cos, Council-for Roussy Barden and Councillor Dorsen

#### Latest wills

Dinah Millicent Brocklehurst of Knutsford, Cheshire, left estate valued at £2,378,987 net. West Midlands, left estate valued

at £1,142,183 net. Dennis Hülton Cooper of Hall Green, Birmingham, left estate valued at £1,000,231 net.

Cecile Jones of Newbury, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,139,100 net.

Arnold Roose, former bank offi-cial, of Pinner, Middlesex, left estate valued at £1,134,744 net. Kenneth Albert Rose of Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, left estate valued at EL,772,734 net. Kenneth Marcus Thornton of

Windsor Forest, left estate valued at £1,823,493 net. John Rutherford Tree, former medical practitioner, of Bedford, left estate valued at £1.484,127 net.

### Institute of Legal Executives

The Institute of Legal Executives Membership Examination Pass List, Autumn 1998:

DURT PASS LISE, ARIMINITY 1990:
Abbox RC. Abel I.S. Ackinciose GR. Ademente R. Adement IK. Adricet RS. Adrice D. Akridet MN, Allock S. Allock T. Admen D. Akridet RH, Andrews C. Appinh H. Arstmon E. Archer AS, Archer J. Archer JH. Arif H. Aris BI, Adiew D. Admey CS, Astridge J. Adkinson SD, Atterbury LA, Ariford CJ.

Artist SI, Assert D, Astricty CS, Astroge J, Astrono SD, Astrobuy LA, Astrod CD, Barland CM, Barl S, Balland CM, Barlet CM, Barborocoph MP, Brainser MG, Barmerman SA, Barlet C, Barr J, Barrett JR, Barron AK, Barnon P, Barwick AC, Barwise AG, Bancer K, Baylis SJ, Bayliss ES, Bayliss LY, Beacon W, Becknett G, Beddows EJ, Beesley EM, Begharbegi LC, Bedinger DW, Bellotte VJ, Bennet DA, Bennett GM, Bennett HM, Bennett MA, Bechler JL, Berry DA, Berry LA, Best NA, Bechef HJ, Berts AB, Brean MC, Bhargara S, Bhatri J, Babl Z, Bidde RE, Bigger TJ, Billett TM, Shon JL, Binder HS, Brigger LJ, Blett TM, Shon JL, Binder SJ, Bhatr DL, Blabe J, Bahle LA, Blay LJ, Body EJ, Bonds FM, Borts MC, Blackmore SJ, Bhatr DL, Blabe J, Bhate JA, Blay LJ, Body EJ, Bonds FM, Boor CP, Borris MA, Bouchard LA, Bowen SL, Bowes CS, Boyce CA, Boyd K, Brades KJ, Brady T, Branall RC, Brand NI, Brennan J, Brevin LJ, Breven LS, Bridgeman GJ, Brinston CP, Brissett ML, Bridge TM, Brogen L, Brocker JM, Bockley LJ, Buckmall ML, Boll BA, Barne GJ, Domney AJ, Burgen JA, Bushed AM, Bucher OM, Busher J, Bottler SP, Busion SA, Barzeo KM.

Cable RH, Cameron AD, Cameron DA, Campbell JO, Campbell PA, Cameron DA, Campbell JO, Campbell PA, Cameron DA, Campbell JO, Campbell PA, Cameron CB, Caulton CD, Carry J, Carr SD, Carler SP, Carters AM, Cartwright DA, Cameron CB, Catton TB, Croching CW, Chaimers EC, Charobarhain F, Chempion BT, Chapman MJ, Charge AM, Cheese J, Chechann S, Chester JA, Choudhary J, Clancy FP, Clark FM, Cark S, Clarks GM, Chron RJ, Caryton PS, Chiley JE, Contes BJ, Cockey TI, Collings TC, Collins BJ, Collinsons GM, Cort TP, Colvell DMC, Consist SD, Comerona NP, Conn AJ, Coronally FM, Cook EM, Cook PM, Cook J, Copper JC, Copper JC,

Cressman I.C. Comperiogs K.
Dakin L. Daniels I.T. Daniels K.M., Darvers
JE., Darabarough-Firth S.I., David G.D.,
Davidson S., Devis S.I., David C.D.,
David V.M., Devis S.S., Dexon D.N., Deary
G., Delakoy M.I., Dempacy S.J., Deaton D.S.,
Devenish C.I., Dicken S.R. Diotrick T.S.,
Donn A. Dockarty R.R. Donnelly DJ.,
Dooling A.M., Dowd K.M., Duffy K.G.,
Dunbarn L.T., Down A., Dorecken T.C.,
Dornia E.M.

Durvin EM.

Barushaw SE, Enlewton LA, Eccleston RL,

Eddisson J, Edge RJ, Edmondson J, Eggm

MIL, Ellion GM, Ellis DL, Ellis MT,

Ebwood DP, England RJ, Enniue MN,

Evare EC, Evano J, Evans LR,

Pagun CM, Farriey CZ, Fairman SC,

Fattong SD, Fergeons F, Ferrigan JJ,

Father EJ, Fair UJ, Fingurald MSD,

Henring SA, Fischer MA, Flyon SE, Fairy

PB, Ford CN, Foureauter SA, Francis M,

Frankenberger VJ, Frenzenson C, Prost CE,

Furmedge AL,

Gabril M, Gainer CR, Galliford TR.

Gabell JM. Gaiger CR. Galliford TR.

Garchie CE, Ganderton LGW, Gardiner S, Garche CM, Gaskill FS, George CM, Gaorge LD, Georgescoe OF, Gething AD, Gibson S, Gilles AA, Griffing KM, Gharwille CV, Giane HA, Glossop K, Goddard NSJ, Goddard TE, Goldberg D, Goleka P, Goods, JM, Goodhall RA, Goodhari LM, Goodwin LP, Gore D, Gore Z, Gowen SJ, Gower L, Graham J, Graham MS, Grant KL, Gravil C, Gray RM, Gray SN, Green RB, Green SPP, Greenburgh MJ, Greenbill J, Gregory LC, Gragory EJ, Criffish PAG, Griffishs PC, Griffish PS, Griffish PS, Griffish SJ, Grand RL, Hall CF, Hall KJ, Hall SJ.

Greenhill J. Gregory J.C., Gregory P.C., Criffish PAG, Griffishe R.G. Griffishe HC.

Haddon PM, Pall CZ, Hall KJ, Hall SJ, Halladay TA, Hamilton-Senith 9C, Hamilton-Senith 9C, Hamilton Hamilton, A., Hamilton, A., Hamilton, A., Hamilton, G.A., Harriston JA, Hamilton, JA, Hamilton, G.A., Harriston GA, Harriston JA, Hamilton, JA, Hamilton, G., Hamilton, S., Healer, KR, Hamilton, S., Healer, KR, Heriderson ZM, Heriston JJ, Heritages, S., Healerth, C., Herkon, C.A., Hicke, C.M., Hidden, D., Holl, M., Heritages, S., Healerth, C., Herkon, C.A., Higher, G.M., Hidden, C., Heritage, S., Healerth, C., Herkon, C.A., Higher, G.M., Hidden, C., Honder, G., Holler, J., Holler, H., Holl, H., Holl, J., Holler, S.A., Holding, R.J., Hole, H.J., Holler, H., Holl, H., Holl, Hold, R.J., Holler, H., Holler, G., Holler, C., Horner, R.E., Horsburgh, H.J., Holler, H., Holler

Kahli A. Kam Y.LS, Kane JA, Karn RV, Kenerin KA. Kromsugh L, Kaye A.J, Kenviley NJ, Reene BT, Reby B, Kelly FK, Reby R, Kelly SE, Kerup CS, Kett HC, Khanon V, Kong NJ, Kindengh JA, Kirk, RA, Kirkputrick SL, Kirchinghum MSJ, Roee T, Kright HM, Knox EJ, Kommon ERL, Kumari K.

Knott E.J. Koramou E.R.L. Kumart K.
Laffin C.P. Lane S.J. Langson L. Lessewidd
H.C. Lassewidd H.B.L. Lan M.P. Law JL. Law
M. Lawnou J. Le Prevan LA. Lenn FF.
Lennux T.P. Leonard K. Leppard N.E. Lawis
H.M. Lewis J.P. Levis U. Ling S.R. Lisner
F.M. Liversidge P.A. Lloyd-king R.J. Lo KCD.
Lobb H.S. Lobky A.M. Lackyer U. Loft J.
Lomax J.M. Loweit J.P. Lovescy S.L. Lowe K.P.
Lower St. Lowey D.S. Lang S.W. Lyon V.
Lyons D. Lyons D.

Love St., Lowey US, Lang SW, Lyon V, Lyon D, Malyo G, Machonald J, Machonald K, Mandonald L, Machonald K, Mandonald L, Machonald K, Mandonald L, Matchanald K, Mandonald L, Mannier LM, Marshall E, Marshall GM, Marshall E, Marshall E, Marshall JA, Martin J, Manco SJ, Machiners G, Manthews NS, Madhews VJ, Matchesis G, Manwon LJ, Marches S, McCarry MB, McConnol LS, McClenvey L, McGerry MB, McConnol LS, McClenvey L, McClenve TA, McClenve TA, McClenve TA, McClenve TA, McClenve TA, Marchell CM, McClenve TA, Michell CM, McChell FP, McTricova AM, Monte EJ, Molove AM, Morrer JS, Morris DL, Morris DL, Morris SL, Morris VK, Mox WRD, Mondels G, Morrie LJ, Monte L, Monris SL, Morris VK, Mox WRD, Mondels G, Mourie LJ, Monris L, Mon

J. Mintrey J.M., Myring S.A., Nailly S.J., Nathur J.J. Neeve C.T., Neish I.P.A., Neistor G., Neistorno P.A. New S.J., News S.R., Neavand M. Nicholls C.M., Nicholls W.M., Nicklin L.E., Nicol G.E., Nichloos H., Nicwindowski M.D., Nowell L.J., Nait S.

O'Brien AE, O'Brien EM, O'Donnell M, O'Fisherty PM, O'Murra SA, Oak JM, Conne EP, Oarley KE, O'lighunt D, O'liver JM, Osborne JR, Osborne PA, Osborne AM, Osenson J, Owen CA, Ownso H,

Onemor J., Owen CA., Owens H.

Pairwa M., Painner KA., Parish V., Parker DR.,

Parker SS., Parker S., Parkinson MJ., Parry

GT., Parry J., Parveen S., Pastem DL., Panel C.,

Palel R., Patel S., Paterson R., Paten S.,

Patierson JA., Paterson R., Paten S.,

Patierson JA., Paterson L., Pouch RL,

Pennek CM., Peck AM., Persold SL, Phelan

AM., Phelips AL, Phelos TH., Philips AJ.,

Phillips PZ., Pickles JE., Pilling AF, Pint HD.,

Potinter TJ, Poung RM., Proof KL, Pools A.,

Poole VJ., Pope CJ., Parter CD., Porter SJ.,

Powell A., Powell LJ., Press DM., Pronger SA.,

Parrole DV., Quy M.,

Rendell PL, Rende LM., Rend AK., Reed C.

Partier DV., Grandr LM., Rend AK., Reed C., Reen S., Regier P., Reball JS., Revis T.; Rice DM, Richards S. Richardson CJK. Richard-son L. Richests ME., Ridgley MR., Risley DM, Rit SW., Robertson DM., Robinson T., Robinson J., Robinson JL., Robinson JR., Robinson SJ., Robinson YE., Rogers AL, Rogers DJ, Rogers S., Relf AJ, Rouse DP, Radd JA, Rudd MA, Rusbby RJ, Ryan D.

Radd JA, Rarid MA, Rumbby RJ, Ryun D.

Sainsbury VL, Sanders JP, Saraderi KE, Sandersun JK, Sands PJ, Sarai NIK, Sargust JK, Sarr SO, Sarsun ZM, Senson RK, Sarr SO, Sarsun ZM, Senson RK, Sarr SO, Sarsun ZM, Senson RK, Sarwar TL Sandor MA, Boot BA, Sont D, Scully G, Senson VK, Sond K, Schmder K, Sensoles JK, Shaw D, Shaw JM, Shehder HL, Shekirake N, Shepherd NP, Shirra FG, Smen Twa, Siebers KC, Sironne SA, Simpson HF, Sordon JK, Stack K, Sleenson JM, Singer V, Sonzann SA, Smith BR, Smith JL, Smith PM, Smith BR, Smith JL, Smith PM, Smith BR, Smith JL, Smith JK, Smith BR, Smith JL, Smith JK, Smith BR, Smith JK, Smith JK,

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Talken PM, Tasker Y, Tater H, Taylor JM,
Taylor SM. Thener RK. Theiwelf H,
Theobald L. Thomas AM. Thomas BO,
Thomas DC. Thomas JA. Thomas BO,
Thompson AEL. Thomas S, Thomas JO.
Thompson AEL. Thomas S, Thomas JO.
Thompson AEL. Thomas S, Thomas JO.
Trevar V, Trevist HS, Trill JL. Trowbridge
M. Turpbudi KA.

W. Turnbull KA.

Valley J. A., Vallone L.A., Vandonse S.J., Varga.
A.L. Varley S.C., Vaughan C.H. Venathes J.A.

Versow D.P. Verreutha E.S., Victoveg H.

Wadsworth AHR, Wadsworth S., Waiter H.,

Walter H., Walter D., Walter M., Waller S.,

Waltengham S.J., Ward L.R., Waring Y.R.

Warner M.A., Watt S.E., Wayaran J.P., Webb

CA. Webb S.E., Webb S.G., Webaser, A.J.,

Webser EA, Websars K., Wedge KA, Welch

C., Welding S., West S.J., Whelan EL,

Whitsou P.M., Whitfield AF, Welcanden SA,

Wicks CJ., Woldans S.F., Williams H., Williams

D.L., Williams J.S., Williams KA, Williams IN,

Windied S.J., Williams J.S., Williams KA,

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Windied S.J., Wood S.J., Woodbead DA,

Woodby G.L., Wood D.J., Washington IN,

Woodby G.L., Wood D.J., Washington S.,

Wricke NM, Weight PE, Wright RL, Wyness

EP, Wynno-Hughes DC,

Yales LA, Yeand S.S., Youth C.

Yales LA, Yearng SF, Young C.

#### Dinners

Security Forum The Secretary of State for Defence was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Defence and Security Forum held last night at the Cariton Club. Lady Olga Maitland, president, was in the chair, and Colonel Philip Howes, chairman, also spoke.

Glaziers Company Mr G.D. Cracknell, Master of the Glaziers' Company, with Mr P. R. Barchelor. Upper Warden, and their ladies; received members of the court and their guests at the St Panl's Day quarer court dinner held last night at Glaziers Hall. The Masser presided and presented Mrs Cracknell and Mrs Batchclor with their brooches. Mr Lawrence Turner also spoke.

Loriners Company
Mr. Edward I. Walker-Arnon. Master of the Loriners Company, presided at the installation dinner held last night at Vintners' Hall-Sir Alastair Morton, Mr Jonathan R. A. Allison, Upper Warden, Mr Robin H. Walker-Arnott, Under Warden, and Mr Stanislaw Klocek also spoke. The Masters of the Condwainers, Painter-Stainers, Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers' Companies were among the guests.

United & Cecil Club Sir Marcus Fox, Chairman of the United & Ceril Club, presided at a dinner held last night at the House of Commons. The Hon Alan Clark, MP, was the principal guest and speaker. Mr Geoffrey Redman-Brown also spoke.

European Arlantic Group Professor Otmar Issing, Board Member of the European Central Member of the European Central speaker at a "meeting of the European Adiantic Group held last night at the House of Commons by courtesy, of Mr Geoffrey Brown, MP, Later, Lord Dahrendorf, FBA, resident of the group, was in the president of the group, was in the chair at a dinner-discussion held at the St Ermin's Hotel, SWI. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald and Sir Michael Palliser also spoke. The German Ambassador and the High Commissioner for Singapore were among those present.

#### Institution of Mechanical Engineers

An Ordinary Meeting of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers was held at I Birdrage Walk. London, at which the 71st Thomas Lowe Gray Lecture entitled "Port Ramsgate Walkway Collapse Disaster was presented by Professor Sir Bernard Crossland, FRS, Dr Stephen Joel, Mr Graham Norton and Mr John Underwood, During the meeting the President, Profes-sor John Spence, presented the sor John Spence, presented the E13,000 James Claynou Prize to Mr Ron Ayres, who led the Thrust SSC Engineering Team, who hold the World Land Speed Record, the Thomas Hawksley Gold Medal to Professor Anthony Kinloch and the Safety Award in Mechanical, Engineering to Dr Hesham Aszam. Afterwards, Professor Spencewas the host at a dinner for the guests who included Professor Sir. guests who included Professor Sir Hugh Ford and other Past-Presidents and Members of Council of the Institution.

Reception

British Safety Council Sir Neville Purvis, Director Gener-al of the British Safety Council. was the host at a reception held was the nost at a reception held yesterday at Armoners' Hall for the council's Diploma in Safety Management, Diploma in Environmental Management and Five Star Health and Safety Management System Audit awards.

#### Merseyside Lieutenancy

The following have been appointed. Deputy Lieumenants of Merseyside: The Earl of Derby, Mrs. Judith Louise Greenmidt, Mr Ray Alfred Morris and Professor John Nelson Turn.

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr C.N.W. Arnot and Miss R. de Rosayro The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Arnot, of Blackford, Yeovil, Somerset, and Renata, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ramon de Rosayro, of Ottawa, Canada.

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Mr G.E. Bonas and Miss H. Van Zyl and Miss H. Van Zyl
The engagement is announced
between George, eldest son of Mr
Jeffrey Bonas, of London, and Mrs
Elspeth Bonas, of Glounestershire,
and Heidfil, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Johannes van Zyl, of Robertson, South Africa.

Mr A. Choudhury and Miss R.L. John daughter of Mr and Mrs. Raymond Johnson, of Newport, South Wales

Mr D.A. Clare and Miss H.M. Parvell

the engagement is announced between David Anthony, son of Mrand Mrs R.D. Clare of Elston, Newark, and Helen Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs T.D. Parrell, of Walsell, West Midlands.

Mr T.R. Rendle and Miss LA. Cantwell

The engagement is announced between Timothy Russel, younger son of Mr. and Mrs Michael Rendle, of Widdington, Saffron Walden, Essex, and Janet Ann. second daughter of the late Mr John Cantwell and of Mrs Yvonne-Weldon, of Balsover, North Derbyshire

Mr J.B. Sar and Miss H.J. Corbett

The engagement is announced between Barney, son of the late George Sampson and of Penny Sampson, of Chelworth, Wilishire, and Hannah, daughter of Robert, and Sarah Corbett, of Kinnersley, Herefordshire. Mr.C. Webber

and Miss J.A. Slocock

The engagement is announced between Calch, son of Mr Paul Webber, of Didoot, and Mrs.
Pursela Webber, of Oxford, and
Josephine, daughter of Mr. and
Mrs. Neel Storock, of Wanford. Mill, Bucks Green, West Sussex

Church news

The Rev Robert Bailey, Chaplain-HM Forces (RAF): to be Team-Vicar, Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry with special responsibili-ty for Cartinel Priory (Cartisle).

The Rev Kathleen Batte, NSM, Wilford Hill (Southwell): to be Wilfard Hill (Southwell): to be NSM Priest in Charge Cinderhill Christ Church (same diocese). Canon John Bearbark. Vicar, Bentham St Margaret and Rural Dean of Ewerness (Braddind): to be also Priest in Charge, Bentham St John the Baptist (same diocese). The Rev Richard Bending, Vicar, Buckten, and Priest in Charge, Hall Weston (Ey): to be Priest in Charge, Terrington St John, Tilney-All Saints, Tilney St Lawrence, Wiggenhall St Germans and Islington, and Wiggenhall St Mary. ton, and Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene (same diocese). The Rev Sue Booys, Assistant Curate, Kidlington w. Hampton

Poyle (Oxford): to be Team Vicar, Dorchester Team Ministry (same The Rev David Broad, Team Vicar, Totton Team Ministry (Winchester): to be Rector, Abhotts Ann and

Upper Claiford and Goodworth Claiford (same diocest). The Rev Christopher Frith, Rector, Brampton St Thomas (Derby): to be also Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of All Saints Cameural Church of All Saints (same diocese).

Canon Carl Garner, Diocesan Missioner (St Albans): has been appointed Priest-in-Charge, Digswell Team Ministry, and Honorary Canon of St Albans Cathedral (same diocese).

IN MEMORIAM -

HACKETT - Cliff 29 Jan 1985. Most keyingly remembered Most lovingly remembe this day and every day. Joanne and Adam.

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Honour Christ and let him be the Lord of your life. Always be ready to give an answer when some-one asks you about your bope, 1 Peter 3.15 (CEV). BIRTHS

BOOTH - On January 23rd, at The Portland Hospital, to Sussan and Stewart, a daughter, Yasmin Panahizadi. CRANSTON-JONES - On 5th January 1999, to Simon and Stan, a daughter, Jemima Alica.

CROSSLEY - On January 27th to Nacmi (née O'Conner) and Andrew, 2 ann.
William Savile Patrick, a
cousin for Hamish, Tom.
Hago, Hamnah and
Zachary.
FRANDSEN - On 23rd

Ismusy in Denmark, to Rebecca (née Shaw) and Jorgen, a daughter, isabella Margot, sister for Maddy.

HIGGENS - On January 25th at St Mary's, Portsmouth, to Sally (née Jerram) and John, a handsome son, Rory James. HUGHES - Richard, Emm and Patrick are delighte to approunce the birth of ala on 19th

LORDON - On 16th January 1999, to Anna (nác Thomas) and Mark, a son, Luke Samuel Popys. MANUSCHEG - On Jenuary 22nd at The Portland Hospital to Leonie Brown and Sturt SCOTT - On January 28th at The Portland Hespital to Esthryn (née Neal) and Alwyn, a daughter, Katharine Margaret.

Laura & sister SOLDANO - On 28th January to Joe and Sarab, a tter, Antonia, a sister for Lucy. THOMPSON - On Jan 24th at Cheisea & Westminster Hospital, to Isabel (née de May) and Nigel, a daughter, Alice Jennifer Helen.

Course Texasts

EMOSTII - On Jappary 27th 1999, to Justine (née Woodward) and Nicholas, a son, Maximilian.

WALLECER - On January 21st, to Charlotte (née Ellis) and Michael, a daughter, Lucy Eleanor Berry.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ORAVIA - Dr Michael. Kethi and the family would like to thank everyone for their kind messages.

DEATHS

BIRTHS

BISHO? - Irene. Peacefully on Thursday 28th January aged 59. Much loved and loving wife of the last Graham Bishop, mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium Family Chapel on Monday 8th Innuary at 11.15 am. Enquiries to Halme & Son Ltd, 19 South Street, Eastbourne.

stAY - Betty Atterton, peacefully on January 28th, aged 84 years, dearly loved wife of Winston, beloved mother of Penalope, Richard and the late Serah and grandmother to Rachael, Thomas, Alloc, Alexander, Philip, Hester, Edward, Miranda and Rosslind. Funeral service at the Parigh Church of St Peter

Funeral service at the parish Church of St Peter and St Pettl, Great Missenden Buckinghamshire, on Friday February 5th at 2.00pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to the / Alzheimers Disease Section of Witcht Society c/o Wright Funeral Services, 106 High Street, Great Missenden, HP18 OBE, 01494 863101. DEATHS

BUR-Lots (note Barlow). On Jammary 28th 1999 in Montreal, on her 91st birthday, after a short illness heavely borne - much loved mother of Susan, David and Wendy and devoted grandmother of Kathy, Karen, Doog, Banney, Katie, Amy.

Mandy and Tommy - Her indomitable spirit will five for ever?

BUNGY - George Heari
Bungy Williams, an
Australian artist and a
Cornishmum, died
suddenly on 24th January
1999, born Geelong, lived
Louden/Walas, Pather to
Louits and Gregory.
Funeral on 5th February
1999, 2.30pm, Wrenham
Crematorium, All
enquiries to R Williams
and Sons Funeral
Directors, 01978 780200.

BUTTERWICK - Michael Willoughby, suddenly at home with his family on 28th lanuary. Further enquiries of Cowley & Son Ltd, Cirencester, 01285 653298.

CARDEW - Tania (née
Wood). Elder Deughter of
Sir Henry Wood, suddenly
on 28th January aged 85 at
the Bettle Hospital.
Reading. - strong spirited
to the end. Dearty foved
mother of Carolyn, Sarah,
Eve. Richard and Rowens
and Grandmother to
thirteen, GrantGrandmother to six.
Futteral Service to take
place in the west chapel,
Reading Crematerium on
Monday 8th February 1993
at 1.35 pm. Enquiries to
Cyril H. Lovegrove, 58
Briants Avenue,
Czyversham, Reading, Tel:
0118 9461282.

UK - Lois (née Berlow). On

CLAVELL SLOUMT - Patrick.
Formerly of Thames
Ditton. Founder and
Chairman for 35 years of
The National AntiFluoridation Campaign.
Died peacefully on 22nd
January aged 92 at
Springlieid Nursing
Home. Cobham. Much
loved husband of the late
Madeline, father of Gary
and Christopher and
grandfather to Philipps.
Annabel, Caroline and
Alan. Private cremation.

COLVELLE - Robert John
(Robin) on Immury 25th
1999 peacefully at the John
Radcliffle Hospital after a
long diness bravely horos.
Beloved husband of Libby
and eldest son of Lady
Joan Colville and the late
David Colville Fameral
Service at All Saints
Church, Dulverton on Service at All Salms
Church, Dulveriou on
Wednesday February 3rd
at 2.30 pm. Family flowers
only, Donations if desired,
to St Peter's Trust for
Kidney Research, 43,
Riding House Street,
London W1P 7PN.

CURREE - The Reverend Plers Currie, Plesse note, no flowers by special request. Enquiries (012657/11992.

DARLING - On 25th lannary
1999 peacefully in the
Aven Cliff Nursing Home,
Bournemouth, Yolande,
aged 89 years, Dearly
beloved wife of the into
Major Thomas Fiellien
Darling and a dear mother,
grandmother and greatgrandmother. Funeral,
service to be held at Poole
Crematorium on
Wednesday 3rd February
at 1 pm. Further exquiries
please to Charles Small
and Son F/D, 15 West
Street, Winshotte, Dorset
BH21 1JR, 01202 892372.

DUNGEY - On 25th January 1999 pencefully at home Betry, beloved mether of Jean and High and devoted grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Alfriston, Sumers at 10 15cm on Andrew's Alfriston,
Sussex et 10.15em on
Friday 5th February 1999
followed by cremation at
Eastbourne Cremation at
11.15 am. Flowers may
be sent to Seaford &
Newbaven Funeral
Service, 22 Setton Road,
Seaford, East Sussex BN25
12 V.

FRASER - Anne Murray on Jensery 27th 1990 peacefully in hospiral at Migdale, Suther-land after a short illness aged 78 years. Widow of Charles, such loved mother of Donald, Ian and Shirley and grandmether of and grandmether of Charlotte, Edmund, Max and Oliver, Faneral and Ouver. Present
private at her own request
in Colspic on Monday
February Ist. Enquires to
AJ& IA McAughtrie,
Puneral Directors,
Dornoch Tet 01862
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GEDDES - Enid Mary. Very peacefully on 28th January 1999 aged 94, widow of Ross (Lord Geddes). Much loved mother of Margaret and Euses, loved and welcoming mother-in-law of Quintus, Gill and Sue and adoring Grannie / Gals of Michael, Coy, Dirk, Clair and Ismes. Thunkupiving service at St.

Dirk, Clair and James.
Thanksgiving service at St.
Hary's Church.
Sinckleford, Surrey on
Wadnesday 3rd February
et 11,30m, No flowers
please but donations if
desired to Missions to
Seamen, St. Michael's
Patarucutet, Royal College
Hill, London EC4.

HTCHEES - L.G. (Lon)
B.S.E. Eng., on January 26th
1999 peacefully after a
long illness. Loved
husband of Barburs and
father of William, Mary.
Janes, Anthony, Geothey.
Palify, Richard and
Teruros. Late Principal
1962-1983 of the
Chaimsford College of
Further Education.
Crematorium on Teaching
of Turther Education.
Crematorium on Teaching
followed by Thamkegiving
Service at All Saints
Church, Maldon, Essex at
2.30pm. Family flowers
only, donations if desired
to either Crematorium of the
Farinigh Hospics of a T
Pennack & Soost, Finneral
Directors, 1/3 Maldon
Road, Great Backlow,
Cheimsford CM2 TDW.

CAWLOR - Edward Laurium.
On 28th January.
pescefully at home. after a long times bravely fought. Much leved hasband. father, son and brother. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Canone Research.
Campaign (for research into overlan cancer acreening), cfo (FD) D. C. mto over an caster screening), c/o (FD) D C Positos, Ongar 366009, Memorial Service to be held at Brentwood Cathedral on Monday 31)

ESE – Poscefully in hospital on 24th January Mary Helen, widow of 7th Baron Linie, Femeral

Gomball died pescafully
20th January aged 84.
Paneral at St Jamer's,
Shere, 3rd February at
2pm. All welcome.
Donations if desired to
Parkinson Society
(Galldford Brazeh) t/o
Pimms Funetal Sorvices,
Charters, Mary Road,
Galldford GUI 40X.

MALMESSURY - The Counters OL Bridget died on Zith January 1993. Funeral for family only, no flowers, Memorial service to be autounced later.

PENTELOW - Percedully on January 19th 1999
Kathleem of Llangwm, Pembrokeshire and formerly of London.
Funeral Toseday January 28th 1999 service 21.00 am at Part Gwyn
Crematorium, Narberth.
Donation: In lies of flowers may be sent c/o
The Paul Sertor!
Pomedation, 31. Haven
Road, Havenfordwest.
Pembrokeshire, SA61
1DU.

SCOTT - Sydns (Scotty). The Funeral Service will now take place at Mortake Crumstorium at 11.30cm on 3rd February and not at Our Lady of Victories as

SERVAES - William Raginald (Bill) on 18th Ianuary. Beloved husband of Patricia. Dearly loved lather, grandlather and friend. Private Inneral. Service of Thanksgiving to be amounted. No llowers. Donations to Macmillian Cancer Reibel, Anchor House, 15-29-Britten Street, London SW3 37Z.

To place death notices, scknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

STEMART - Romald Compton, Baronst, Deputy Compton, Baronst, Deputy of Bedfordshira. Befored bushend of the late Cynthia (nde Farmiloe), aged 95, clied pescafully on Jenuary 28th in his home for which he lived in for 62 years. Private funeral at Goldens Gerea Creastorium (East Chapes), on Tosaday 2nd February at 12.45 pm. Family Howeve only please, and any donations, in favour of the Evelyn Bospini, may be sent to Neville Funeral Service. The Old Church, Filewick Rosad, Ampthili, Beds MK 45 2NT. Tel 01525 405132, There will be a Service of Thanksgiving at Manidem Parish Church on Wednesday 24th February at 13 services 2.15 Wednesday 24th February

VAN SEUGEN SEC - John Alexander died suddenly Am neutre set John
Alemander died suddenly
aged 66 serly in the
seconing on 27th January
1993. Much lowed by
overyone who knew him.
Thankspiving Service at
Christinuch, Eaker,
Surrey at 2.30 pm on
Tinusday 4th Pebruary,
and afterwards at
Surition Hockey Club to
celebrate and rememberhis life. No flowers please
but donations to British
Heart Poundation or
Macmilian through
Sheriock & Sons, Dorking,
Funeral Directors on 01305
882256.

/AN OVERSTRAETEN - Haza

VAN OVERSTRAFFEN - Hanel Amns inde Arnes), peacetilly at home on Wednesday 27th Jenuary. Beloved wile of the late Robert, dearest mother of Genevitive and Marc, adored grandmother and much-loyed mother-in-law. Divoted peatoral assistant to Father Ceraid Flood for 27 years. Regulem Mess. 12.30 pm az St Tharest's, Haig Road, Riggia Bill, an Monday Sti February, Enquiries W. Uden and Sons, 07859.

where Gabrielle Ursula (note Style) on January 26: 1999, peacefully after a abort uliness. Widow of Dick and much loved nother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private family cremation. No flowers.

WESON - Bernard Charles
Howitt on Jameary 27th
1999 peacafully at home.
Much loved husband of
Simone, father of Anne
(Mowgift, Paddy and
Charles, Inther-in-law to
Dave and Jane,
grundfather of Sophia,
Joseph and Eloise and
Uncle Bun to many.
Pumeral at 10 am on Friday
February 5th at Christ the
Prince of Pesce RC
Church, Formera Way,
Weybridge, followed by
interment at Burvais
Cemetery, No flowers
please.

January 1998 at his home Charles aged 64 years. Beloved husband of Isy, loving father of Jolia, Jane and Katherine and much loved grandfather. Private committal followed by Service of Thanksgiving at St Kyneburgha's Church, Caster at 11 am on. Wednesday 3rd February 1999. Family flowers only piesse.

AMNTER - Brends on January 24th, loving wife of Edward: Any enquiries tel: (01263) 514514.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES PAGAN - A Thanksgiving Service will be held for Barbara Pagan at the United Ratomed Church, Wood Street, Barnet on Pebruary 19th at 2.30pm. A reception will follow the service.

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UK HOLIDAYS 1 1004 per 0101 de 2 cc WINTER SPORTS FLATSHARE

AATMANES Let 1977 New 1975 Marked Own Nove need Associated the Street of DOMESTIC & DIRECTORY

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### MAJOR-GENERAL MICHAEL HALFORD

Major-General Michael Hallord, DSO, OBE, GOC 43rd (Wesser) Division, 1964-67, died on January 4 aged 34. He was born on October 28, 1914.

MICHAEL HALFORD came from a family closely associated with the York and Lancaster Regiment. His grandfather fought with the Vth Dragoon Guards at the Charge of the Heavy Brigade in the Crimea. His father served in the Relief of Ladysmith and was wounded ar Spion Kop, while serving under his future father in law. Lieutenam-Colonel (later Brigadier-Generall W. T. Kirkpatrick. Halford went on to command the 2nd Battalion York and Lancasters on the Ypres Salient, 1915-16, and the lst Battalion after the war. Previously, in 1897, Kirkpatrick had been with the 2nd Battalion in the troopship Warren Hastings, which ran on to rocks at night and sank off Reunion on passage to Bombay. He is said to have been instrumental in ensuring that no lives were lost,

In Halford's own thirty years' service in the Army, he probably saw more action than any of his ancestors: prewar, the Arab revolt in Palestine and internal

security in Egypt, then, during the war, Dunkirk, the Tunisian and Italy cam-paigns and the latter phases of the war in North-West Europe; and postwar, the early occupation of Germany, anti-British rioting in the Sudan, intelligence work in Hong Kong, withdrawal from the Canal Zone in Egypt, and the Suez landings.
Educated at Wellington College, Michael Charles Kirkpatrick Halford did not follow the insular materials.

not follow the usual route into the Army via Sandburst. Instead, in 1932 he went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took a degree in maths and modern languages. While at Cambridge, he was granted a TA commission in the Guern-sey Militia. In 1935 this was replaced by a regular commission with a year's ante-date, when he followed his father into the York and Lancaster Regiment (Y&I). The Regimental Colonel has described

him as: "Not an easy man to know, but very well liked, particularly by his contemporaries. Ladies loved him probably because he was handsome to start with and could be quite a smooth. He gave the impression of being a gentle soul and very much the gentleman. As a military commander I never heard

anyone criticise him. He was well regarded by all ranks and considered to Gende soul or not, he was an outstanding commander of the 6th Y&L.

which he joined as adjutant in 1939 when they were raised as the 6th Hallamshire (TA) Battalion of the Y&L - Hallamshire being the old name for the Sheffield area. After Dunkirk, where the battalion formed part of the rearguard, he was mentioned in dispatches. A year later he was sent to the Staff College, Camberley, and after a number of minor staff jobs, set off for Tunisia as Brigade Major of 138th Brigade in 46th Division, which included 6th Y&L. He saw action in the defence of Medjez-el-Bab and the recapture of

Sedjenane, permanently losing the hearing in one ear after driving over a mine.

After Tunisia, he returned to 6th Y&L and landed with them at Salerno. He took part in the crossing of the Volturno, the capture of Monte Camino, the attack on Monte Cedro and the crossing of the Garigliano before being sent to the US Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1944, when the battle-experienced North African



divisions were withdrawn to England to prepare for Overlord. He had been mentioned in dispatches for a second time and was later appointed MBE. ...

Returning from the States, he rejoined his battalion for the storming of Le Havre, after which he took over as second-in-command, seeing further actions in Belgium

and Holland during the battles for the Rhineland, including the second Battle of Arnhem. He assumed command of the battalion in March 1945, taking it on through the rest of the campaign, finally liberating Utrecht on May 7, 1945. He was awarded the DSO for his part in the capture of Arnhem.

After the war, he had to revert to major and mark time like so many other successful battalion commanders. By 1952 he was back with the 1st Battalion in Germany as second-in-command just before it left for the Sudan 10 garrison Khartoum. He at last regained his rank of lieutenant-colonel in 1953 when appointed GSO! (Intelligence) in Hong Kong. A year later he was given substantive command of the 1st Battalion, which was by then in the Canal Zone making ready for the British evacuation of Egypt. The battalion had barely settled into Dover Castle after the evacuation when they re-embarked for the Suez landings in 1956. They reached El Cap, one third of the way down the Canal to Suez, when Eden ordered the ceasefire.

Advanced to OBE after Suez, he went as an instructor to the Imperial Defence

College in 1957 before being appointed Brigade Colonel of the Yorkshire Brigade two years later, and subsequently Brigade Commander of 147th Infantry Brigade (TA), based around Birmingham. By 1963 he was Chief of Staff Western Command and was seconded for three months to report on the defences of the dissident Parlies tribel one in the 4th Parlies of the Command and was seconded for three months to report on the defences of the dissident Parlies tribel one in the 4th Parlies of the Command and was seconded for three months to report on the defences of the dissident Parlies of the Command and Com Radian tribal area in the Aden Protector-

ate and to visit Oman.

His last job in the Army was to command 43rd (Wessex) Division (TA) around Taunton. He was offered a further appointment as Chief of Staff, Far East Command, but chose to retire in 1967. He had been appointed Representative Colonel of the Y&L, in 1966 and had the distressing task in 1968 of overseeing the disbandment of the regiment, which had been formed in 1758, and which his family had served for three generations.

In retirement, he became a deputy lieutenant of Hampshire and regional secretary of the British Field Sports Society. He also continued his links with the TA and the Royal British Legion.

He married Pamela Joy Wright in 1945. They had three sons. She and two sons

#### **AUGUST EVERDING**

August Everding, German opera director and administrator, died from cancer in Munich on January 26 aged 70. He was born in Bottrop, Westphalia, on October 31, 1928.

Tithin the first month of the year Europe has lost two of its most distinguished opera adminis-trators. Rolf Liebermann died at the beginning of January and now he has been followed by August Everding, the man who succeeded him as director of the Hamburg State Opera in 1973.

Everding spent only four years in Hamburg, but that was long enough to show the city that his skills as a stage director were as assured as his ability to run an opera house which under Liebermann, had acquired international status. Everding's lifelong passion for Wagner and Richard Strauss was quickly made plain. So was his readiness to take on contemporary opera. although he had already demonstrated this when in 1968 he had staged Humphrey Searle's Hamlet there.

In 1976 he was lured away by Munich to take charge of the Bavarian State Opera. Evending was born in West phalia but Munich probably had the percipience to know that he was a Bavarian at heart. And it was in Munich that he became artistic king and made his home. It is the city with which he will always be associated.

Within a few years Everding's success at the State Opera led to his being given control of all Munich's subsidised theatres, of which the Opera was just one, albeit the most important. When even Bavaria had to tighten its financial belt it fell to Everding to do the job of cost-cut-

As so often the Opera was the first to suffer, much to the fury of Wolfgang Sawallisch. the music director who had been established there since



Evending: a lifelong passion for Wagner and Strauss

two men often made the headin his tribute to Everding earlier this week concentrated on the work he had done in founding the Bavarian Theatre Academy and restoring the famous Prinzregententheater, which had long been closed. Both men had more than a touch of the autocrat. Everding remained revered in his adopt-

August Everding was the son of an organist and was thoroughly well-schooled in music He learnt to play the piano, organ and flute and then went to the universities of Bonn and Munich to study theology. He was a deeply committed Roman Catholic, a fact which was sometimes concealed from those who saw. him only as a brilliant adminstrator and rarely reluctant bon vivani.

1971. Arguments between the After leaving university he moved into the straight thealines in the German press. It tre, with the Munich Kammer-was noticeable that Sawallisch spiele. There he directed many plays, with the emphasis on contemporary drama, and there Peter Stein was among those who benefited from his

encouragement. Everding's success at the Kammerspiele led to an invita-tion in 1965 to direct his first opera, La traviata, at the Staatsoper itself, which he was eventually to run. The house turned out some of its most distinguished regulars for the occasion: Teresa Stratas, Fritz Wunderlich, Hermann Prey." However, the production

which set Everding truly on the operatic path came in 1967 with Tristan in Vienna. Birgit Nilsson was the Isolde and Karl Böhm conducted. This led quickly to invitations from Bayreuth, for The Flying Dutchman in 1969, followed by Tristan. That latter opera

became an Everding speciality and with it he made his debut at the New York Met in 1971 at Rudolf Bing's insugation. It marked the start of a solid association with the house.

Covent Garden saw only two examples of his work. The first was Strauss's Salome in 1970, a glittery, bejewelled staging, reworked from Hamburg, with Grace Bumbry in the title role, Norman Bailey as Jokanaan and Soiti coducting. He returned in 1979 with a more fanciful Magic Flute. with Ileana Cotrubas as an enchanting Pamina and Colin Davis in the pit. It remained in the Garden repertoire until 1991. The Flute was one of the pieces to which Everding returned several times. His version for the Savordinna Festival in Finland came back vear after year.

Everding had a reputation for being something of a traditionalist as a director, sticking closely to the demands of the composer and librettist. But he was capable of springing a surprise or two. as he did in a Don Giovanni for Paris in the early Seven-

He was always ready to embrace the new and step outside the regular repertory. He championed Carl Orti, staging De temporum fine comoedia at the Salzburg Festival and, most recently in Augsburg, a revival of Die Bernauerin, a highly Bavarian piece almost certainly close to his Bavarian heart. The 1991 Munich Festival opened with Penderecki's Ubu Rex, directed by Everding. While still running the whole of the Munich musical scene, he found time to stage a complete Ring cycle in Warsaw in the late 1980s.

He received many honours and awards in Germany and his natural air of authority ensured that he was president of a number of opera and theatre associations within and without his native land. August Everding is survived by his wife, Gustava, a doctor. and by four sons.

#### ORLANDUS WILSON

Orlandus "Dad" Wilson, gospel singer, died in Paris on December 31 aged 81. He was born in Chesapeake, Virginia, on Angust 27, 1917.

CONQUERING America with their swing-influenced barmonies and later introducing European audiences to their music, the Golden Gate Quartet became one of the best-known and most widely copied gospel groups in the world. A key member of the group was the bass singer Orlandus Wilson, who was the anchor for Willie Johnson, Henry Owens and Bill Landford as they developed their innovative "Jubilee" style of singing — an invigorating blend of syncopated rhythms borrowed from the Holiness churches of Virginia, superb harmonies and vocal

percussive and instrumental sounds. Their repertoire, although gospel based, included traditional and topical songs. Their Second World War flagwaver Stalin wasn't Stallin' was revived in the 1970s by the former Soft Machine drummer Robert Wyatt.

The Quartet was founded, suitably enough. in a barber's shop in the Norfolk, Virginia, suburb of Berkeley in the early 1930s. The hairdresser A. C. "Eddle" Griffin and the bass vocalist Robert "Peg" Ford recruited high school glee club members Owens and Johnson to accompany them in the new jubilee style of quartet singing. Johnson, recalling the formation of the group's style, said in. 1980: "We were singing in every church that let a quartet sing in it. The main churches that got to me were the Holiness churches, because they sang with a beat. and whenever I got around to training the group, I'd give our things a beat."

By 1935 the group was touring locally, and Griffin, satisfied that he had set the group on the road to stardom, went back to his barber's shop to be replaced by Landford. The elderly Ford, who had begun to miss dates because of sickness, retired in 1936 to be replaced by Wilson, who had spent his early life in Hodges Ferry, a small rural area near Chesa-



The Golden Gate Quartet, with Orlandus Wilson second from bottom

peake. The group now had its classic line-up, the showy, stylised Landlord, the melancholy Owens, the witty and sly Johnson and underneath it all, Wilson with his superb sense of swing and timing. With regular radio appearances, the Gates soon became one of the most popular pospel acts on the scene, and it was not long before they came to the notice of the record scout Eli Oberstein. who worked for the Bluebird label, a budget label run by the mighty RCA. In 1937 Oberstein recorded the quartet in an hotel in Charlotte. North Carolina, where in just two hours they recorded 14 numbers - all but two of them in just one take. Their debut release, Golden Gate Gospel Train, became their theme song.

By 1938 with their records becoming huge sellers among blacks, the group had their first exposure to white audiences. with an appearance in the famous "Spirituals to Swing" concert organised by John Hammond at Carnegie Hall. This was followed by a national radio show, as well as a long-term engagement at a famous New York nightspot, the Cafe Society club.

By 1941 such was their stature that President Roosevelt invited the group to appear at his inaugural gala at Washington's Constitutional Hall, the first black group to do so. Now at the height of fame the quartet were touring with swing bands and playing to packed houses. Ira Tucker, the lead singer with another famous gospel group, the Dixie Hummingbirds, recalled seeing them live during that era. "They used to snatch their words. At the end of a song they blended harmony and would hold a note sometimes for 15 seconds.

They also influenced the soul star James Brown in his early and lawless days. As, a teenager he performed gospel at home with two schoolfriends. "We sang Old Jonah and Blind Barnabus and tried to imitate the Golden Gate Quartet. Really, gospel is what got me over. especially after I went to prison."

Landford left the group in the 1940s to be replaced by Clyde Riddick, and the group made cameo appearances in several Hollywood films, including Star-Spangled Rhythm and Hollywood Can-teen. By 1950 Owens and Johnson had left, and the next few years saw the quartet baltling against the tide of rhythm and blues groups. But they worlds to conquer.

They made their first European tour in 1955 to huge acclaim, and in the following years they would record and eventually base themselves in France. Their stay there was long, happy and productive. Personnel changes occurred, but Wilson and Riddick remained to give stability and a flavour of the early days. Wilson leaves a widow and a son.

### PERSONAL COLUMN



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acting of the cyditions of Actic Computer Services Group

(De Administration) will be Fig. (Dr. Administration) was a hald at PricewateriouseCoopers, No I London Bridge, London SEI 9051. on Thunsday IS February 1999 bt 11.00 am under the provi-sions of section 3 of the insolven-of Act 1964. The purpose of the specting is to consider the disse-tors' proposals for a voluntary ar-tengement under section 1 of that JETLINE: NEW YEAR SPECIAL 0171 360 1111

ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS

need our love and practical support, not just today but every day. Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but it can make life worth having

Donations orgently needed by the British Kidney Patient Association Bordon, Hants. GU35 93Z. Reg. Charity No. 270288

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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#### SIR REGINALD WILSON Sir Reginald Wilson. his professional objectives. Pa-

former Chairman of the National Freight Corporation, died on January I aged 93, He was born on July 10, 1905.

REGINALD WILSON was one of the most successful of those accountants who by their energy and merit came to direct some of the most powerful corporations in the country. From his earliest days he had a concentrated eye for financial success. He often told the story of his inquiry in the 1920s into the smash of Swedish Match Company and of his grateful astonishment when he found that the compa-

ny could be made viable. In the 1950s he used the same techniques when he was Comparoller of the British Transport Commission to pronounce that British Railways could perfectly easily earn profits if only £1,500 million were spent on modernisation. In this case, however, the success he sought notoriously did not materialise. It was left for Dr Beeching, later in the 1960s, to set a new course for the railways.



Yet Wilson had a great and lasting success when, after leaving the railways, he became chairman of the Trans-port Holding Company and later of the National Freight Corporation. He found a true niche as head of organisations in which he could decentralise the management into comparatively small and homogeneous subsidiary companies.. The virtues of this policy for the Transport Holding Company were so apparent to the Government that the Transport Act of 1968 bore Wilson's unmistakable stamp. in tune with his unflagging energy, he spoke often about

pers to the British Association and the Institute of Transport led him to the presidency of the latter body in 1957. He was a compelling speaker, often deliberately provocative. Abandoning all pretence of intellectual neutrality, he provoked equal and opposite reactions, but, as he well knew, not the least of his achievements was stirring people into action. Reginald Holmes Wilson

was the son of Alexander Wilson. Educated at St Lawrence, Ramsgate, and at London University, he became a Scottish chartered accountant and then served in Whitney, Murray & Co. becoming a partner in 1937. Subsequently he joined Brown, Fleming & Murray. Soon after the outbreak of war he went to the Treasury. In 1941, after a term in the Ministry of Shipping, he was appointed Director of Finance in the Ministry of War Transport, în 1945 he became Under-Secretary in the peacetime ministry. Soon his activities widened.

He served on the 1947 Royal Commission on the Press, the Control Commission in Ger-

many, the Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation (as vice-chairman), the New Towns Finance Committee (as chair-man) and the North German Iron and Steel Council.

In 1947 he took the step which led to his industrial success - into transport as Comptroller of the British Transport Commission. In 1953 he widened his scope as a member of the British Transport Commission, subsequently becoming chairman of the astern and then the London Midland Railway regional boards. In 1962 he left the railways for the Transport Holding Company as deputy chairman, rising to chairman in 1967. In 1969 he became the first chairman of the National Freight Corporation.

He was knighted in 1951 and among his distinctions were the Award of Merit of the Institute of Transport in 1953 and the presidency of that institute in 1957.

Reginald Wilson was twice married and is survived by his second wife, Sonia, whom he married in 1938, and by a son and a daughter of his first marriage.

#### AIR RAID LAST ON THIS DAY **NIGHT**

The following communiques were issued by the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief Home Forces last night:-

January 28, 11.15pm Hosnie aeroplanes crossed the Kent and Essex coasts shortly before 8pm, and proceeded towards London.

Some machines penetrated to the capital. where bombs were dropped between q and

Latest reports show that one enemy machine was brought down by our airmen in Essex.

January 29, 12.45am A further attack was delivered on London after midnight, bombs being dropped about 12.30. The raid is still in progress.

A FULL-MOON RAID

The first air raid of the year on London took place last night. The last raid occurred on December 18, so that the capital had been free from the unwelcome attentions of enemy airmen for just on six weeks. The December raid, as The Times then observed, took the public somewhat by January 29, 1918

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*** 

The first air raid on London was on May 31, 1915: thereafter they became frequent, causing many casualties. The King tounced the raids as murder of which the Germans seemed proud, and Lord Fisher thought that a batch of German PoWs should be shot for every raid.

night's raid. On the contrary, the surprise has rather been that we have been left alone for so long a time. The last raid occurred when the moon was quite young, with a slight mist hanging over the river. The present raid, on the other hand, almost coincided with the full moon, which fell on Sunday, and the atmosphere was perfectly clear. It was, too, considerably colder last night than it had been

Again, the December raid began at an early hour. The warning came just as business descend to a comparatively low altitude.

people were preparing to go home, with the result that large numbers of them were kept in town for several hours. The warning last night came later, by which time the majority of people had reached their homes. The consequence was that, much fewer people were to be even comparating for shelter than were to be seen congregating for shelter than on the previous occasion. In other respects last night's raid followed much the same course as

As soon as the police warning was given the public made for the shelters, which are now well known to them, and congregated without panic or disorder in the tubes, subways, and basements of large buildings, which serve on such occasions for protection. Nobody, of course, cares for these raids; but on the whole the crowds last night were quite good-na-tured, and accepted the situation with

The two or three enemy machines which succeeded in penetrating the defences were attacked by British aeroplanes. One enemy machine was attacked by our airmen, and the rapid exchange of machine-gun fire was heard, while the flashes of the guns could be seen. The raider appeared to break off the contest, and was subjected to a severe bombardment from the anti-aircraft guns. Eve-witnesses declare that the enemy craft seemed to be in difficulties and was forced to

#### Health fund raided to pay nurses

The Government sparked protests vesterday by announcing that it is to raid the £1 billion health service modernisation fund to finance big pay rises for nurses.

Downing Street angered health service managers when it admitted that it intended to use money earmarked for reducing waiting lists and buying high-technology equipment to top up the nurses' pay award...

#### Ritz besieged by photographers

The biggest aluminium army seen on the streets of London for some years besieged the Ritz in Piccadilly last night in the hope of snatching the picture of the decade. More than 100 photographers crammed a 30-yard stretch of pavement on the strength of a tip-off that the Prince of Wales would finally present himself in public with Camilla Parker Bowles

#### Mandelson sells up

Peter Mandelson may well have to start at the bottom and work his way up from a "smallish" flat when he sells his spacious townhouse in Notting Hill \_\_\_\_. Page 1

#### Killer's lover tells all

The husband of the deputy beadteacher Kathryn Linaker, who was stabbed to death, told a court of his sex sessions with the woman who killed her ...... Page 3

#### Trimble wants action

David Trimble accused the IRA of breaking its ceasefire by murdering Earnon Collins, the IRA defector. He demanded that the Government take action...... Page 4

#### Prisoners tagged

In the next 12 months it is estimated that 30,000 prisoners serving the final stretches of sentences of between three months and four years will be tagged in a new early-release scheme......Page 9

#### Minister attacks gifts As the "gifts-for-favours" scandal

envelops the International Olympic Committee, Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, bemoans the present-giving culture in sport and politics... .... Pages 10, 19

#### Organ donation fears

The future of organ transplants is threatened by a growing shortage of both donors and specialists capable of carrying out the life-saving operations, a new report .Page li

#### Bargain ballet

The Royal Opera House set out to dispel its elitist image by announc-ing that it was slashing ticket prices, staying open day and night and taking opera and ballet into the community\_\_\_\_\_Page 12

#### Public losing faith

The public has become increasingly sceptical about the Government's ability to deliver on its promises, according to the latest MORI poll:.... ....Page 13

**UN chief backs force** Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General, strongly supported Nato's threat of force in Kosovo, saying that Bosnia had underlined the need to use it when other means failed ....... Page 17

#### Albright visits Jordan The American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, paid a hastily arranged call on Jordan's novice Crown Prince in an attempt to put the weight of the United States behind him......Page 18

Chaos in Colombia Chaos reigned in Colombia's earthquake disaster zone as thousands of homeless and hungry survivors went on a looting ram-

#### Clinton's new peril

The White House began to focus on the peril of a criminal prosecution of President Clinton after office, as the Senate trudged on with the "show trial"...... Page 21

#### Policeman arrests brother over tov

A policeman arrested his older brother for swearing after a simmering ten-year disagreement over a rare Dinky toy reached boiling point, a court heard. PC Roy Lewis-Tatton, 33, arrested his brother Paul, 39, after a row at Paul's house in Bilborough, Nottingham, last October. But magistrates threw the case out of court after hearing of the long-running feud.



Five seal pups, hand reared after being abandoned, returned to the wild in Pembrokeshire yesterday, wearing caps so they can be spotted by naturalists

Volvo sale: Ford has fought off competition from Fist to agree to buy Volvo's passenger car division for \_Page 29 £3.9 billion...

Yahool deal: Internet mania reached new heights yesterday when Yahoo! agreed to take over GeoCities for \$3.56 billion (E2.16 bil-Page 29

Rival bids: Federal Mogui, the United States car components group, is considering mounting a rival offer to the £4 billion bid that was made for Lucas Varity by TRW, also of the .Page 29 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell

3.90 points to 5872.5. The pound also fell 0.45 cents to \$1.6477 but rose 0.34p against the euro to 69.29p. The sterling index rose to 100.6 from 100.3 ....

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Sun rises: 7.43 am

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World City Heather Otherneothe

Footbalk John Gregory, the Aston Villa manager, has criticised Stan Collymore, who is seeking counsel-...Page 56

ling for stress..... Cricket: Ariuma Ranatumpa, the Sri Lanka captain, received a sixmatch suspended han after a fourhour disciplinary hearing that followed the incidents in the international against England ...... Page 56 Salling: Tony Builimore, the yachtsman whose life was saved by the Australian Navy two years ago, is planning a return to the sport in The Race, a non-stop round-the-\_Page 50

world event... Rugby union: Harry Williams, the Ulster director of rugby, is bemused but delighted by the success of his team in reaching the final of 

TOMORROW

IN THE

TIMES ON

**SATURDAY** 

M KAZAN'S LIST

The belated Oscar

MAY CARUMBA!

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Richard Morrison: "It's hard not to conclude that the Arts Council has been deliberately reduced to this pointless existence by a Government that wants hands on control Page 44 of the arts"..... Heads he loses: Images of Charles

I in a new show commemorating

his execution 350 years ago reveal

early evidence of political spindoctoring by artists.... \_\_\_Page 45 Pop 1: Sitting pretty at No 2 in the singles chart with Tequila, the Bradford four-piece Terrorvision is everything a band should be, says

Cartlin Moran Page 46 Pop 2: David Sinclair reviews the week's top pop album releases. Plus how British Asian music has marched out of the underground. into the mainstream, Page #7

Jane Shiffing: "Hats are aphoristic. You allow the essence of your personality to be revealed by a hemisphere of fabric

Freetime: A psychologist says techno stressed workers need a daily "human moment" free of e-mail and voicemail... ... Page 23

Telecommunications: Data transmission will soon surpass speaking on the telephone as the dominant form of long-distance communica-Page 36-38

Live and kicking: Raymond Sneddy explains why the former MP David Mellor is more in demand than ever, as a sports and music \_ Page 42

Damage: "It is hard to imagine a legal forum in which such damaging allegations could be beard without any defence." John O'Leary on a case of dubious justice...... Page 49

The announcement by Indonesia that it is preparing to offer independence to East Timor, the territory Indonesia invaded in 1975, comes as a welcome sign that the long nightmare may be about to end. Human rights groups estimate that 200,000 people were

Preview: World Cup chaos hits Luton Airport in Airline (ITV, 8pm) Review: Joe Joseph and a new impression of Monet...... Pages 54. 55

#### The Bell debate

The Lords debate not only vindicates the stance of The Times in the Bell case. It offers a necessary corrective to those who would wish to see the already extensive restrictions on freedom of information in Britain further tightened... Page 25

#### Polls apart

Twenty months beyond a landslide victory, Tony Blair and his Government continue to defy the laws of political gravity ....

#### Some like it cold

Where are the snows of yesteryear? Shakespeare's winter of ricles hanging by the wall is an ancestral Page 25

#### PETER RIDDELL

The main virtue the Tories now need is patience. People may still not have time for them, but that does not mean they are starry-eyed about the Government Page 13

BY ADAM JONES

from Fig.

deal to buy Voice

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#### SIMON JENKINS

With the virtual collapse of country side development control under the Tories, southern England is set to become Virginia Water from Hyde Park to Land's End Page 24

#### MARY ANN SIEGHART

You have to sympathise with Mr Hague if these are yesterday's men, it is hard to see where tomorrow's people are coming from The new Shadow Cabinet entrants are hardly cothralling Page 24

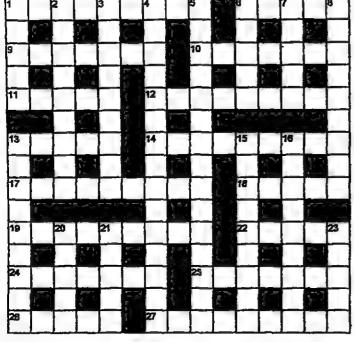
#### PHILIP HOWARD

The BBC television cloak and dagger, Tricolour and tripe, guillotine and galliard historicals about the Scarlet Propernel on Sunday right drive me back to the children's bookshelf.....

Major General Michael Halford, infantry officer, August Everding, opera director, Orlandus Wilson, singer with the Golden Gate Quartet, Sir Reginald Wilson, account-\_\_ Page 27

News reporting sex on TV; marketing farmers' produce; court and TV; oldest title in Lords; Christians in India; devotion to animals; un-The Boston Globe mistakable Britishness ..... Page 25

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,013



- ACROSS 1 Shameless, having had a close
- shave (9). - one of those on horseback, possibly (5). 9 Coach repeated direction for be-
- ginner (7). 10 A foreign second team appears to stacken off (7).
- ed back in Indian town (5).

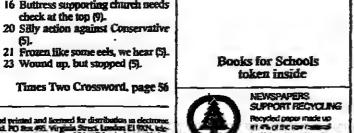
  12 Concerned about immediate future, as result of premature birth?
- 13 An altogether sound direction (5). 14 Vicious brawi in Hyde Park (6.3). 17 Superficial courtesy fashionable
- in old epistles (9). 18 One relying, perhaps, on spin doctor? That's right (5). 19 Relief of pain Galen contrived in

Solution to Puzzle No 21.012



- 22 During epidemic left Winchester, say (5). 24 Joint is covered with this fat, final-
- ly, in Spanish dish (7). 25 Benevolent cardinal, possibly, in
- the flesh (7). 26 Way in which champion compet-
- ed (5). 27 Documentary evidence of championship feat (5-4).
- Dame Clara's targets (5).
  Dreadfully alarmed to find broken rocks in the way (4.5).
- One constructing castle in Spain infanta's is transformed to some extent (9). Unlikely to crumple, like a stone
- waller? (6-9). 5 Horse, for example, offered for sale that's hard to shift (4,2,3,6).
- 6 Old coin collection is a valuable possession (5). 7 Greedily devour Cheddar, for ex-
- ample (S) 3 It helps those who want to make
- the cut at St. Andrew's (9). 13 Silk hat worn by chamsy actor is an encumbrance aloft (3-6). 15 Fortitude shown by French in Al-
- pine river (9). 16 Buttress supporting church needs check at the top (9). 20 Silly action against Conservative
- 23 Wound up, but stopped (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 56



9336 444 919 9336 401 419 Li Geografic atter a cold, many spart, N Eng-land mainly dry with surnry spatts, Wales, SW England, East Anglia drizzly. The Mid-lands and SE England langely dry, the odd surnry break. Central and E Scotland bright, cold at first; clouder later. W Scotland and N ireland dull with light rain or drizzle. To-night mist and log inland; parchy firest. 9234 401 744 9334 401 747 9334 401 748 9334 491 919 9314 401 388

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sunny speks. Light NW wind, Mex 9C (48F).

Bondra, E'burghi & Dundee, A'bdeen, Cent Highisode, Morey Firth, Orlany: cold, bright start; turning cloudy, drizzle possible. Light W to SW wind. Mex 7C (48F).

SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argott cloudy with light rain; drier by afternoon. Light westerly wind: Mex 9C (48F).

Shettend: cloudy, drizzle; maybe a few bright speks. Light SW wind. Mex 8C (48F).

Mi Instruct cloudy. Grizzles of drizzle. ☐ N Ireland: cloudy, outbreaks of drizzle esp on hills. Light W wind, Max 11C (52F). ☐ Rep of tretand: drizzle in W; bright/sunny spets in E. Light W wind, Max 12C (54F) ☐ Outlook: overnight log will clear slowly tomorrow, then makely day. Sunday quite cloudy; SE may be brighter and colder.

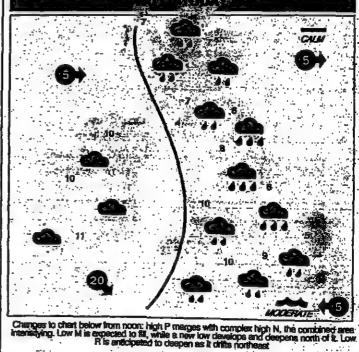
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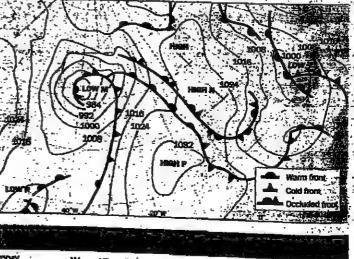
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GORE-TEX: fabric is extremely durable, Waterproof, Rain and snow can't get in but perspiration can get out.





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BUSINESS

Monty and the case of the big investors **PAGE 33** 



**ARTS** 

Is Choque Hosein the face of pop's future? **PAGES 44-47** 



MEDIA

Jackson out of running for Birt's job **PAGES 40-43**  **TELEVISION** AND RADIO **Pages** 54, 55

**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

FRIDAY JANUARY 29 1999

# Ford agrees £4bn deal to buy Volvo's car division

By ADAM JONES

FORD has fought off competition from Fiat to agree a deal to buy Volvo's passen-ger car division for £3.9 bil-

commercial vehicle activities. also revealed that it will close its only UK factory — a truck assembly plant in Irvine, Ayrshire — in July 2000 with the loss of 250 jobs. The Swedish group cut 250 other jobs at Irvine before Christmas, when it withdrew bus assembly work.

Ford's foray across the At-lantic is the latest outbreak of merger mania in the global car industry, which is hurting from too much manufacturing spacity and the high cost of veloping new vehicles. It follows the purchase of Chrysler

by Daimler-Benz last year. Volvo said its car business, which had sales of about £7.6 billion last year, needed econo-mies of scale. The sale focuses Volvo on buses and trucks, construction equipment, engines and aerospace. It is expected to launch a bid for Scania, its rival truckmaker in Sweden. Volvo bought 13 per cent earlier this month, a move Scania likened to a hostile bid.

Shares in Henlys, the UK bus and coachmaker, rose from 4281/cp to 4721/cp yesterw amid speculation that Volvo would seek to increase its stake. Volvo bought 10 per cent last year.

Fiat admitted yesterday that it had wanted to buy all of Volvo, not just the passenger car division. Volkswagen was also thought to want the car operation but a source close to the deal dismissed speculation that General Motors had been

Ford, the second-biggest car group in the world after Toyota, sold about 6.8 million vehicles last year. Volvo sold about 400,000. Ford said its success with Jaguar, the UK luxury caraker that it revived and exanded, showed that it can run



Jac Nasser, left, vesterday sealed the purchase of Volvo's passenger car division with Leif Johansson, the Swedish group's chief executive

a foreign subsidiary at arm's length without blurring its identity, tradition and appeal.

The Volvo name will be used by both Ford and the voivo. A joint comi has been set up to own the brand and license it to both.

Ford said the deal would enhance earnings in the first year. It said Volvo had a following among female and young buyers who cannot afford its existing luxury cars, Jaguar and Lincoln.

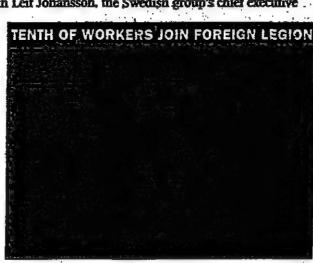
Ford may distribute Volvos alongside its own cars and is likely to broaden the product range. New Volvos may even-tually be developed jointly with other Fords, using common "platforms" to save money. From 200,000 last year, Ford wants to sell 700,000 huxury cars in 2000, including Volmillion in the new millennium. It said it was too early to say how the deal would affect UK plants but there appear to

be no great fears for job losses. Volvo's car operation employs 190 in the UK. Up to 5,000 work in independent dealerships selling Volvos. The future of Volvo's production joint venture with Mitsubishi in The Netherlands is in

ue for now. The Ford deal is likely to be put to Volvo shareholders in March for approval.

The Volvo trucks work lost from Irvine will be transferred and Sweden. The timing of the closure announcement angered union officials, who said that they had been asked to prepare a business plan to save the plant, which they were due to discuss with Lord Macdonald of Tradeston, the Scottish Industry Minister, yesterday af-ternoon. The AEEU said a further 500-1,000 jobs were indir-ectly threatened by the closure.

Driving scat, page 33



#### TRW bid could see fresh offer for Lucas

By PAUL DURMAN

FEDERAL-MOGUL, the US car components group, is considering mounting a counter-bid to TRW's £4 billion takeover offer for LucasVarity, the UK-based manufacturer of braking and

fuel injection systems.

TRW, a leading American producer of steering and suspension systems, ended days of speculation with a cash offer worth 288p a share that was recommended by Lucas-Varity's board.

However, some analysis be-lieve TRW has failed to land a knockout blow, and that Federal-Mogul's interest could drive the bidding as high as 320p a share. LucasVarity's shares

ended 7p higher at 290%p. Federal-Mogul, which has tabled a conditional 280p offer, demanded that it should have access to any information that LucasVarity has provided to TRW. The Takeover Panel will force LucasVarity.to comply with this demand.

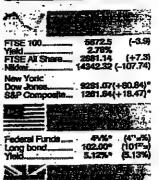
The TRW deal would allow Victor Rice, Lucas Varity's chief executive, to take over as head of the colarged group's automotive operations. It is believed Dick Snell, Federal-Mogul's chairman and chief exec titive, sees no role for Mr Rice

if his bid should succeed. LucasVarity has agreed to pay TRW £30 million if its ofier fails. Joe Gorman, TRW's chairman and chief executive. hopes to wring \$200 million (£121 million) of savings from gesting the need for substan-tial job losses among Lucas-

ity by market value, believes the deal would produce an immediate enhancement to its earnings The deal the largest cash acquisition in the auto component industry, would create a group

Commentary, page 31

#### **BUSINESS** TODAY



ondon close... Exchange rates : denotes midday trading prices

Varity's 51,000 employees. TRW, smaller than LucasVar-- even before any synergies. with sales of £11.5 billion.

#### Premier plan

Premier Farnell shares recovered 18 per cent after the chief executive of the distributor of electronic components unveiled plans to invest £30 million a year in an attempt to re-

Sorry Save

Save Group, Britain's largest independent petrol retailer, has been hit hard by Esso's long running Pricewatch cam-paign, prompting it to pass payment of a final dividend because of an anticipated fall in 1998 profits. But chairman James Frost believes the outlook for 1999 is brighter.

### **Experts see rates** going under 4%

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

INTEREST RATES are set to fall to their lowest levels for nearly half a century as the British economy enjoys a economic think-tank predicted katerday.

City hopes that the economy will avoid a major recession were also boosted by the latest bank lending data which showed mortgage and credit card borrowing remains firm.
The National Institute for

Economic and Social Research (NIESR) forecasts in its latest Economic Review that interest rates will fall to below 4 per cent by early 200i, the lowest level since 1955, as inflationary pressures ease and the Government prepares for EMU entry. The economy will avoid an growth totalling I per cent this year and rebounding to 2.5 per cent in 2000. However, the Chancellor will need to maintain budget discipline to ensure interest rates fall towards

Figures published yesterday by the British Bankers' Association showed a small rise in seasonally adjusted net mort-gage lending in December to £1.21 billion. Credit card borrowing also rose modestly to £4.91 billion, some 4 per cent higher than in December 1997.

#### Yahoo! buys rival in \$3.5bn move

danger. Jac Nasser, Ford chief

executive, said it would contin-

INTERNET mania reached new heights yesterday when Ya-hool agreed to the \$3.56 billion (£2.2 billion) takeover of Geo-Cities (Oliver August writes). GeoCities, which helps In-

ternet users to build their own Web pages, floated last au-tumn at \$9 a share. On the first day of trading its shares shot up to \$90 before falling back to \$50. Yahoo!'s offer values them at \$113. Retail investors stand to make a return of 1,200 per cent. But the biggest winner

apart from the recentily graduated company founders—is a venture capital, fund. CMGI owns a 28 per cent stake, which it bought at the bargain price of 67 cents a share. The fund made a \$1 billion profit on its \$5 million investment. Internet purchase page 30

### Greenspan hits at Internet 'lottery'

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

ALAN GREENSPAN, Chairman of the Federal Reserve. yesterday warned investors that the "hype" surrounding internet companies had introduced a "lottery premium" into their stock market valuations.

However, Mr Greenspan told the Senate Budget Com-mittee that while the "vast ma-jority are sure to fail", some small companies would succeed and take advantage of the huge potential market.

The Fed Chairman added that, despite the "hype and craziness", the frenzy actually showed the Wall Street market working in an effective manner because investors are pre-pared to shift capital into fresh opportunities before "earnings actually materialise".

Mr Greenspan also repeated his warning that the US economy cannot remain "an oasis of prosperity, if the rest of the

world is in serious trouble". The currency markets, however, ignored his comments, sending the dollar to a record high against the euro. Traders reacted to a string of strong US economic data to conclude that the US economy is in far better health than the European economy and that the European Central Bank will soon

cut interest rates. The euro slipped below \$1.14 for the first time to trade at \$1.1397. The pound also tracked the dollar higher to reach its own record high with the euro slipping from 69.63p

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# Whitbread nursery GRE board urged group up for sale

■ WHITBREAD'S David Lloyd Leisure arm is seeking a buyer for its Gate-house Nursery chain, which ran into controversy last summer amid allega-tions of mistreatment of youngsters at

its Enfield unit Gatehouse, which formed part of the David Lloyd acquisition in 1995, is one of the UK's biggest operators of private nurseries with 40 sites. Around half are located at David Lloyd Leisure clubs. Sieve Philpott, managing director of David Lloyd Leisure, said: "It is not part of our core business and, following a review, we have decided to sell it.

The private nursery market has good prospects but is highly specialised."

Industry sources believe the coun-cil's decision to close the Enfield unit last year was a big factor in Whit-bread's decision to seek an exit. "Ir's not what Whitbread are best at and the Enfield problems show the dangers inherent in the business," said one. "It's

simply not worth the hassle." The Enfield unit, which is at a David Lloyd club, has now reopened under the management of Busy Bees, a privately-owned rival and considered one of the likeliest buyers of the Gatehouse business. Whithread declined to reveal its asking price, although experts believe the 20 stand-alone nurseries could be worth £10 million.

# to accept a suitor

LEADING shareholders in Guardian Royal Exchange were yesterday urging the board of the insurer to accept one of the bids put on the table by Royal & SunAlliance, Eureko and AXA rather than vote to remain independent.

The GRE board meets today, and is being urged by John Robins, its chief executive, to reject the offers made in favour of a management-led option.

Mr Robins believes this proposal

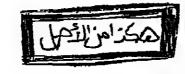
could see GRE valued at 420p a share or £3.7 billion. The highest bid made in the auction is 390p a share from RSA with Eureko offering 385p and AXA bidding 3740. However, the SSA offer has met with

opposition from its own shareholders and there is concern about whether Eureko, which is a consortium of six mutual insurers, can raise the finance.

Yesterday a number of institutional investors told The Times that they would be unhappy with the board of GRE if it refused the offer on the table. "It is an unacceptable option to follow the mangement route." said Gerard Griffin of ING Barings Asset Management.

Another leading investor, who did not want to be named, said: The directors have to know their duty and their duty is to obtain the best price.

Commentary page 31



Takeover talks give

SHARES in Norcros, the building products supplier, leapt 20%p to 84%p yesterday after the company revealed that it was holding talks that could result in a takeover offer being

made: Norcros refused to identify the other parties involved

in the negotiations, but market speculation suggested any sugg

nessful suitor would almost certainly break up the compara-Norcros's key divisions include Triton Showers, tile business

es in the UK. Australia and South Africa and an adhesives

market for some time that the sum of Norcros's parts was sig-

nificantly greater than the whole. At yesterday's closing price

the company is worth about £140 million. One analyst said conservative valuations of Norcros's divisions implied the company could be worth up to 120p a share.

Bensons Crisps 10% up

CONSUMERS munched their way through more than 685 million packets of Bensons Crisps' products in its last trading year, leading to a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £38 million (524.5 million) in the arms and in Managember 20 Products

tion (£34.5 million) in the year ending November 30. Pre-tax profit rose 18 per cent to £3 million (£2.55 million). Earnings

per share were 4.19p (3.46p) and total dividend for the year is 2p (1.575p). The company said the improvements were because of the launch of a new range of savoury snacks and crisps.

Barbour Index rises

SHARES in Barbour Index, the supplier of specialist informa-

tion, rose 24 per cent after the group announced it was in possible takeover talks. Patrick Barbour, chairman of the group until.

its flotation in 1996, is to step down from the board as executive

Analysts said that it had been a widespread belief in the

boost to Norcros

#### Swiss and French to link up

THE Paris Bourse is joining forces with the Swiss Exchange, a move viewed by markets yesterday as a direct challenge to the similar partnership between London and Frankfurt.

Paris said it had signed an agreement with Zurich that would allow cross-membership by the end of March. Links between the two exchanges' trading systems will be in place by the summer.

Paris claims it is the world's fifth largest exchange with a domestic market capitalisation of £410 billion at the end of 1997, while Zurich ranks number six with a value of £348 billion. The joint-capitalisation of London and Frankfurt was nearly a trillion more at £1,751 billion.

#### Havelock buy

Havelock Europa, the retail interiors and point-of-sale dis-play group, has bought the inhouse printing division of Kwik Save Stores, for up to £558,000. The company also announced it has added a £600,000 charge to the £1.4 million restructuring provision announced in June. Staff-Ing has been cut by 75 to 800. The shares rose 4p to 311/2p.

Gold Fields drops Gold Fields, the world's second biggest gold producer, posted a 25 per cent drop in profits to 188 million rand (£19 million) in the quarter to the end of December. Earnings were hit by a strong rand and a 9 per cent rise in operating costs.

#### **EXCHANGE RATES**



AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER

# Yahoo! set to challenge AOL's Net dominance

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

THE \$3.56 billion (£2.2 billion) takeover of GeoCities by Yahoo! combines the second and third-most popular Internet websites and creates a credible threat to America Online (AOL), the industry leader.

Yahoo! is one of the main gateways to the Internet and GeoCities is one of the mostfrequented sites, according to a survey conducted last month.

But while Yahoo! has established itself as an Internet brand name, GeoCities was a complete unknown on Wall Street until last autumn, its flotation was delayed because of market turbulence and the offer price was dropped from \$14 per share to \$9.

The squabbling over the of-fer price now seems comical. Yahoo! is offering to pay \$113.66 a share, a premium of 52 per cent over the last closing price. Under the terms of the deal, GeoCities shareholders receive 0.3384 Yahoo! share for each share held.

The takeover is the third Internet mega-deal announced in a month after AtHome's acquisition of Excite for \$6.7 billion and AOL acquired Netscape for \$4.3 billion. They are all attempting to build compa-nies whose websites are both popular now and have sufficient diversity of services to garner more business.

GeoCities was founded in 1994 and has never made a profit, nor earned any significant revenues. The last quarterly loss widened to \$8.4 million from \$3 million. Sales grew from \$1.7 million in the quarter a year ago to \$7.5 mil-lion. In 1998 as a whole, the company lost \$20 million on revenues of \$18 million.

Media Metrix, a Web research company, placed the geocities.com site in third place, with 18,98 million unique visitors, behind AOL's "aoLcom" site, with 28.3 mil-lion users and Yahoo!'s main yahoo.com site, with 26.8 million users.

A combination of Yahoo! and GeoCities traffic could surpass AOL's traffic depending on how much their individual audiences overlap.

Yesterday's deal is Yahoo!'s first foray into the field of mergers and acquisitions. The company has a market value of \$38.4 billion.



### Signs of recovery reported by Bryant

BRYANT GROUP, the housebuilder, said yesterday that demand for new homes was showing signs of recovery.

Andrew MacKenzie, chief executive, said: "Reservations before Christmas were a little disappointing (but) visitor levels and purchaser confidence do appear to be improving."

The comments came as Bryant posted interim profits of £29.5 million against £21.3 million for the half year to No-vember 30. Mr MacKenzie said the company had seen

ter, but that it still managed to sell more houses and increase selling prices. The group's operating profit margin rose from 11 per cent to 13 per cent. Kevin Cammack, house-building analyst at Merrill Lynch, the stockbroker, said: These are reassuring numbers, not just for Bryant but

for the sector as a whole." The interim dividend was increased 5.5 per cent to 1.53p a share, payable from earnings that rose to 7.1p from 5.2p.

THE bitterness caused by Brit-

ish Aerospace's proposed merger with Marconi Electron-

ic Systems showed no signs of

#### **Industry** to get £13m in high-tech clean-up

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE Government is provid-. ing £13 million of funding to encourage businesses to make. use of biotechnology to improve their energy efficiency and to cut down on pollution. After the controversies over

genetically-modified food and cloning, biotechnology is seen by many as more of a threat than a benefit. However, John Battle, Industry Minister, is keen to promote it as a technological force for the cost effec-tive greening of industry. Yesterday he said: "We need to widen the debate. We are

looking at how companies clean up the environment."

The Department of Trade, and Industry suggests that making chemicals using biological reactions can avoid the need for high temperature processing and the production of unwanted by-products. In engineering, treatment tanks

engineering, treatment tanks known as bioreactors can be used to prevent the bacterial contamination of cooling fluds and lubricants.

Mr Battle said: "Science is ambiguous. It can be used destructively or it can be used wisely well."

The new Bio-Wise initiative will provide grants, mostly to small firms, to allow them to apply biotechnology to their

### director and dispose of his 42 per cent holding. At yesterday's closing price of 327/4p, Mr Barbour would net about £24 million from the sale, 33 per cent of which is held in a trust, Last week Barbour posted first-half profits of £1.8 million (£1.9 million). Cornwell Parker leaps

SHARES of Cornwell Parker jumped 33 per cent yesterday as the furniture and fabrics company said it is in merger talks with more than one company. Analysis pointed to Walker Greenbank and Silentnight as potential bidders, but both denied being involved. One industry source said: "Everyone believes that consolidation must happen in the sector, but no-body can see how." Cornwell Parker shares closed 21/2p better at 87%p, capitalising the company at £36.5 million.

#### Mulberry losses grow

MULBERRY, the luxury goods group based in Somerset, is not paying an interim dividend due to deepening losses. The AIM quoted company, which paid an interim dividend of 0.75p a year ago, made a pre-tax loss in the six months to September 30 of £563,000, from £480.000 a year ago. Loss per share was 2.7p (2.3p). It said trading remains difficult, and at mid-January like for-like sales were down 6.5 per cent. Sales in the first half were down from £13.8 million to £12.9 million.

#### Lloyds TSB expands

LLOYDS TSB has agreed to buy the registration services business of Bank of Scotland. The deal consolidates Lloyds TSB's position in registration, increasing its market share to about 10 per cent. BoS provides share registra-

### Bank of America pulls out of Docklands move

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BANK OF AMERICA said yesterday that its decision not to move to Canary Wharf in London's Docklands was based "purely on commercial grounds" and had no connection with the Government's position on the euro.

The bank, which last April announced a \$133 billion (£83 billion) merger with US rival Nationsbank, also denied it had any plans to move its Eu-ropean headquarters from

London where it has had offices for nearly 70 years. .
About 600 staff are based at

the bank's two City offices at Ailie Street and New Broad Street. It employs a further 900 people at its clearing and settlement centres in Bromley and Croydon. By contrast, it employs just 50 in Frankfurt.

A spokesman said it had entered preliminary discussions about taking office space at Ca-nary Wharf, where rents are

25 per cent lower than in the City, but pulled out while they were still at an early stage. Canary Wharf, which is reported to be considering its

own flotation, has attracted a number of top financial institu-Occupants include Morgan

Stanley Dean Witter, Credit Suisse First Boston, Bardays Capital and the Financial Services Authority. HSBC is also building new offices there.

THE TIMES

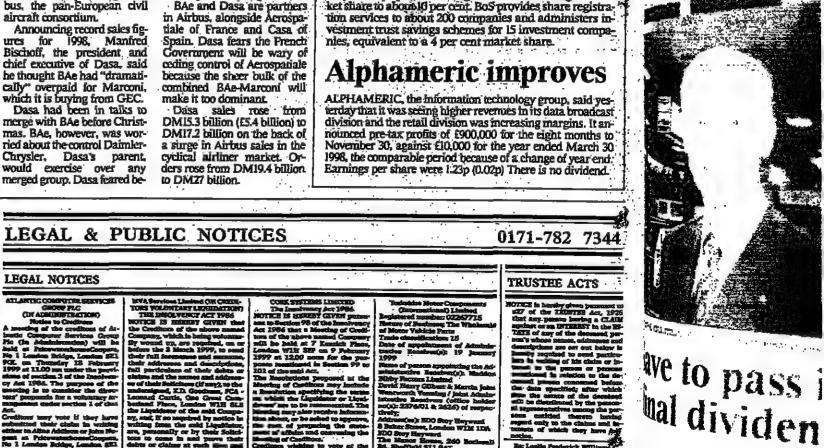
which it is buying from GEC. Dasa had been in talks to merge with BAe before Christmas. BAe, however, was wor-ried about the control Daimler-Chrysler, Dasa's parent, would exercise over any merged group. Dasa feared be-

#### ing swamped by BAe. Or Bischoff also said he was worried that the BAe-Marconi deal "might lead to delays in the restructuring of Airbus', which is being transformed from an unwieldy consortium into a more streamlined com-

dissipating yesterday when Dasa, the German aircraft group, accused BAe of over-It also said the all-British depany to try to compete more effence deal may damage Air-bus, the pan-European civil fectively with Boeing.

Bitterness over

**BAe deal lingers** 





EAT OUT FOR £5

ur new Eat Out for E5 Restaurant Guide, this year in association with Diners Club International, is bigger and better than ever. The guide lists more than 820 restaurants where you and up to five friends can enjoy a special Times menu for just £5 each. Restaurants where you can dine out in style for next to nothing include Battersea Barge. London, SW8 and Veronica's British Restaurant, Hereford Road, W2. Both were highly recommended by Times readers last year.

Simply collect two differently numbered tokens from The Times and/or The Sunday Times and attach them to a voucher. Tokens will be published daily until Sunday February 7.

Bookings must be made in advance and you should tell the restaurant you want The Times 55 offer and confirm what your 55 meal consists of. The offer is valid until March 7, 1999. Offer available in Britain only. A full

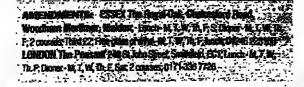
listing of restaurants is available on the Internet at: www.4-d.co.uk.

if you did not get a copy of our restaurant guide with Monday's Times, please send an AA-size see, with a 39p stamp attached, to: Eat Out for £5 Guide, PO Box 481, Customer Services, Level 6, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.



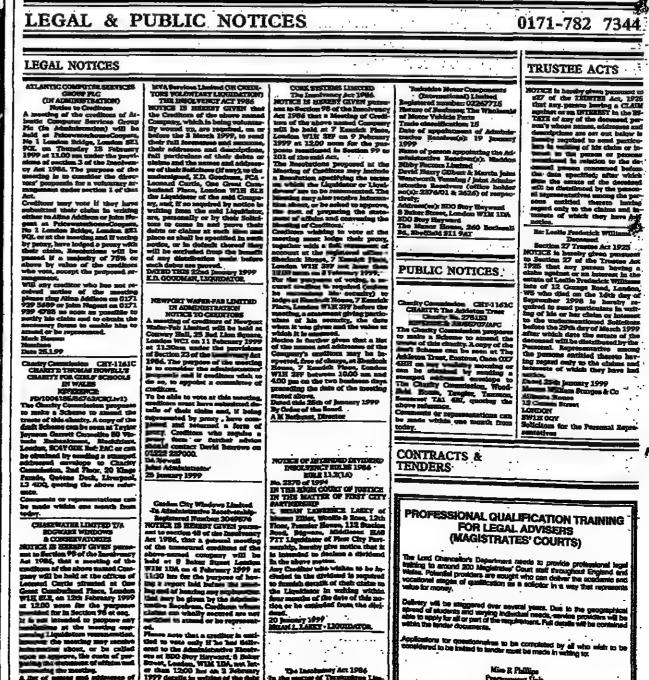
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READERS WHO HAVE JOBED IN OUR GREAT BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS PROMOTION WILL FIND TODAY'S TOKEN ON PAGE 45

CHANGING TIMES



boor she

f anyone had been wonder ing why the chaps at Phillips & Drew were becoming a touch impatient over some of their investments, the explanation became glaringly clear yes-terday. Of the 67 pooled pension funds measured by CAPS, P&D's

ranked 67th in the last quarter.

If Tony Dye and his team had put their money into the FTSE 100 at the start of the year and gone on holiday, they would have come back to find it worth almost 15 per cent more. Sadly, d'ery chose instead to hunt for I fue, and delivered a return of just 9.4 per cent.

Poor Mr Dye has at least been consistent in his view that equity markets are horribly overvalued, although the markets themselves have consistently failed to concur. But many of P&D's chosen stocks have done their best to cool down the indices: a trawl through its portfolio reveals a raft of underperforming companies. While P&D may have divined hidden value in these stocks to offer it has remained. stocks, too often it has remained hidden. Now, from the bottom of the performance league, it is not supprising that the firm has de-cided on a more aggressive stance and if management fail to deliver the value, then P&D will." Sears and Mirror Group have

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d - 1 - B expands

# P&D — down but not out

pro-active stance, with P&D taking on a pivotal role in determin-ing the future of the company. The fund manager has tired of waiting for these companies to de-liver growth: it is now keen to engineer a quick, clean and premi-

um price, exit.

Quite what it will do with the resulting cash must be a matter of some concern to the fund manager. Mr Dye's fears for equity markets have led P&D to keep al-most 18 per cent of its funds in cash, against the average of just 7.2 per cent. He will have to find something more creative than that to do with the proceeds, if he succeeds in generating takeovers of more of his sickly stocks.

of more of his sickly stocks.

Chemical company Albright &
Wilson may be the next to go and
Evans Halshaw and Ushers of
Trowbridge are already on their
way. At Tay Homes, the
management is having to fend
off an attack from the Sunley
family, which has the fingerprints of P&D all over it. Enterprints of D&D all over it. Enterprints of D&D all over it. prise Oil, another P&D stock, is in talks with Lasmo, which could been very public examples of this result in merger terms being



#### **COMMENTARY** by our City Editor

agreed as early as next week. Other fund managers cottoned on to the idea of shareholder activism long before P&D. Hermes has a special unit dedicated to stir-ring up under-performers and Prudential often has a stern word with lax managers. But P&D is in real fighting mood. The poor per-formers who beined to take it to the bottom of the league table will

Rock and a hard place for Chandler

Sir Colin Chandler may find himself an undeserving vic-tim of the P&D fightback. He only took up the post of chair-man of Guardian Royal Exchange four weeks ago, yet this af-ternoon, at GRE's board meeting, he faces a vote that could lose

him his new job. Faced with a bid approach from AXA last autumn. the insurer's board took the wise decision to see if anyone else was interested in buying the company. Now, having discovered that at least times bidders — AXA, Royal & SunAlliance and the Eureko consortium — are willing to pay anything up to £3.5 billion, Sir Co-lin and co should do the decent thing and accept one of them.
Which one is the only matter for

extra at the last minute? These are the only questions.

Alas, there is a complicating factor. John Robins, GRE's current chief executive, and Peter Owen, the PPP boss who fancies the job, reckon that if the board

rejects all these bids, they can sell

off the bits in a way that will deliver extra value for the share-holders. A figure of 420p a share has been mentioned.

The problem Sir Colin faces is that most investors, including P&D, do not want this solution. The insurance market is not a happy place at the moment. Margins are under pressure. There is global consolidation among the big players and specialist opera-tors, like Direct Line, are underdiscussion. Is Eureko's 385p a share in cash a better bet than RSA's 390p in cash and shares? Can AXA be squeezed for a little cutting aggressively in lucrative niches. GRE is not a large operator and its disastrous market per-formance — which saw its shares halve in value in the months before AXA's approach - indicate that it will find life tough if it

stays independent.

The investors think that the executive management's suggested route is too much of a risk. Why gamble on an extra 30p a share

when the downside risk is more than 100p a share? As representa-tives of the interests of investors. GRE's non-executives have to vote for a sale. Sir Colin Chandler may feel like a turkey voting for Christmas, but the alternative could cast him as the David Montgomery of GRE.

#### Euro centres battle for their futures

Y ou have to hand it to the French. They may not be any good at attracting business to their financial markets, but when it comes to plotting and diplomacy in the rush to Europe wide and global exchanges, they are second to none. Eurex, the German-Swiss de-

rivatives exchange that overtook Liffe with its first generation screen-trading system, has just suffered a hig setback to global ambition. Rebel pit traders at the Chicago Board of Trade have voted down a deal to tie the two inextricably together via a costly new system. Liffe itself is eschewing

mega-deals while it sorts out its own cost base. That makes the Euro Globex network stitched to-gether by Paris and centred on France's Matif and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange suddenly look very smart.

Paris was outraged when the London Stock Exchange agreed an almost humiliating deal with Frankfurt to build an EU-wide blue-chip exchange, especially when Madrid joined in. The bourse has finally agreed a rival link with Zürich and is doubtless courting Milan to gather more ammunition. Unfortunately for the great diplomats, the whole lot could end up being run by a man and his dog on the Internet.

#### Victory Rice

THOSE who know Victor Rice never believed that the dissent of LucasVarity shareholders would stand in his way for long. Now, with a £4 billion offer from TRW, he is set to gain his wish of moving the company to the United States and the likelihood is that his salary package, as vice-chair-man of a US business, will far outstrip the rather generous one he already enjoys. Federal-Mogul would not have to do very much to win over LucasVarity shareholders. Having no vacancy for Mr Rice would help.

# Premier Farnell plans £30m reinvestment

BY PAUL DURMAN

PREMIER: FARNELL, the electronic components distributor, is to invest £30 million a year over the next three years in an attempt to reinvigorate its business.

The "investment for strategic review conducted by John Hirst, the former ICI executive who took over as the group's chief executive last July, it prompted a 29p, or 18 per cent, rise in Premier Farnell's share price to 1914p.

Investors in Premier Farnell have lost more than two thirds. of the value of their investment

by a controversial Anglo-American merger three years. ago. However, the main catalogue distribution business has continued to make profits of about 20 per cent of sales. Mr Hirst said: "We are rein-

vesting some of our margin back in the business." The company will invest about £25 million in new computer systems to create shared customer and product databas es, to allow more flexible catalogue production and more efcouple of years. This is because Premier Farnell allowed different parts of the group to install different and incompati ble systems. Mr Hirst said: I'm not saying it's been entirely wasted. We had to get the systems in to get year 2000 compliance. But they will have a shorter working life than they would otherwise have."

Mr Hirst plans to spend £10 million a year on marketing and developing an electronic commerce capability. Until ficient purchasing. But it is also having to write off El5 mil-Mr Hirst's recent appointments of Michael Bell and Angela Walker, the company lacked anyone with group relion, or about half the money it spent on systems in the last

sponsibility for information technology and marketing. A priority is to restore growth at Newark Electronics, the US catalogue distributor that saw a 7 per cent fall in sales in the first half because of a badly handled attempt to

reduce price discounting. Mr Hirst said Newark's sales had not fallen further over the last four months. The group said overall trading was in line with expectations. Premier Farnell is expected to make pre-tax profits of about £110 million in the year

Tempus, page 32

#### Misys gets boost as banks focus on service

BY CHRIS AYRES

BANKS are finally switching their resources from fixing the millennium bomb and making themselves euro-compliant to improving customer service. Misys, the financial software company, said yesterday. Misys, which also helps

banks to offer services on the internet, said it had seen a surge to demand for front-office soft-ware products from traditional banks. It added that demand had also been boosted by the success of newcomers to financial services such as Yahoo!, Virgin and Tesco.

Kevin Lumax, chairman, said: There has been a big switch from Year 2000 and euro software to new customer service systems. There hasn't been much of this for two years because banks have simply been found old systems. In the case of companies such as Ya-hoo, they haven't got any old systems."

This demand helped Misys

to lift half-year pre-tax profits Lefter tent to £59 million, and sales 62 per cent to £288 million. Earnings per share rose 46-per cent to 7.9p. The strong results assuaged fears over Misys's move two years ago into the difficult US healthcare business, and shares in the company rose 864p to 584p.
However, Misys admitted a Usurn in the healthcare marker having changed its sales fo-cus from large groups, which buy its Vision product to small-er companies, which buy its

ations, and announced the sale of eight non-core businesses for An interim dividend of 1.21p

Plus Medic product. Mr Lomax

ruled out any further diversific-



James Prost, chairman of Save; the independent petrol retailer

### Save to pass its final dividend

By SARED SHAR

SAVE GROUP, Britain's large est independent petrol retailer, yesterday said that it was pass-ing payment of the final dividend. Save shares fell 14/sp to 38p, against a five year high of

2694p in 1995.
The company, which claims
3.75 per cent of the UK market,
said pre-tax profit for 1998 is
likely to be \$5.5 million, before exceptionals, down from £9 milfrom the previous year. The final results are due on March 30. The company said, however, that it is confident of a recovery in 1999.

would have matched 1997's £9 million profit.

"Margins just crashed in the final quarter. We had to give everything away. When you're only making 3p a litre, to give away 2p is suicidal," he said. The company paid 3.2p as an interim dividend — and a 7.1p total last time. Foregoing

a final dividend will cost Mr Frost, who holds 5 per cent of the stock, about £200,000.
He said retail prices had already risen in the last week and he expected them to rise further over the year - as the

James Frost, the chairman, integrated companies and the said that if it were not for have supermarkets claw back the ing to react to a 2p per litre margins that were lost during woucher promotion from Esso, the price war that kicked off which lasted from September with Esso's Price Watch last year to January 15, Save paign, launched in 1996. with Esso's Price Watch cam-

#### Orchard deal brings windfall

Mark Vaughan Lee, the West Country businessman who presided over the near-collapse of Danka Business Systems, yesterday received an esfimated £25 million windfall when his local radio company was taken over by GWR, owner of Classic FM.

The company, Orchard Ra-dio, owns four stations in Devon, Somerset and Dorset. Mr Vaughan Lee owned about 10 per cent.

Orchard has been bought by GWR for nearly £26 million. The company made pre-tax profits of £1.2 million

Goodhead declines Goodhead Group, the printing company, saw pre-tax profits fall to £556,000 from £1.3 million in the six months to November 30. Goodbead attributed the fall to a £6.4 million investment associated with a con-tract with BT to print telephone directories. Earnings fell to 0.7p a share from 2p but the interim dividend was lifted to 0.3p a share from 0.2p. Shares were down ip to 29½p.

Old Mutual fined The fund management arm of Old Mutual, the South African life assurance company, has been fined for incorrect pricing of four of its unit trusts. The Investment Management Regulatory Organisation fined Old Mutual £20,000 for a breach of its rules between July 1997 and March 1998. Old Mutual fund

managers have paid £62,000 compensation to the funds and

private customers and will pay

Lingu's costs of £20,731. Creightons loss

Creightons, the perfume and triletries company that alam-doned an agreed takeover of ri-val Potter & Moore because no one would lend it enough mon-ey, said yesterday that the fias-co cost £400,000. It blamed "adverse sentiment" towards small public companies for its failure deal three months ago. Creight-on recorded a pre-tax loss of £1.35 million (£74,000 loss) for 30. The shares fell lp to 8p.

Barlows raises £10m Barlows, the property group based in the North West, said yesterday that over the past three months it has sold 17 properties for a net consideration in excess of £10 million. The sales are in line with its intention to reduce borrowings, and, after completion of the sales, gearing will stand at about 75 per cent of net assets. The shares rose 2p to 47p.

### Laroche aiming for French float

minic Walsh writes).
The company, which has produced Chablis since 1850, accounts for 7.5 per

DOMAINE LAROCHE, one of France's cent of production in the Northern Burgun-most prestigious Chablis producers, yes-terday signalled its intention to float on the Languedoc region, Domaine La Chev-the French stock market this spring (Do-the French stock market this spring stock market stock mark to compete with New World wines.

Michel Laroche, chairman, said a listing on the Paris Bourse's Second Marché would "enable us to consolidate our posi-tion as a key player in the wine industry". He hinted that it might be be used as the springboard to acquire other vineyards. In the year to March 1999, it is expected to post sales of Fr170 million (£18 million) and net profits of Fr4.25 million...

POSS' ARR' NET'S GROSS' ARR' NET'S

### **C&G** Investment Rates

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£10,000 - £24,89	Annually	5.90	5.90	4.72	5.60	5.60	4.48	\$25,000 - \$39,999	Annually	5.
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·£10,000 - £24,999		5.41	5.55	4.33	5.13	5.25	4.10	2144.22		
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£10,000 - £24,995	Annually	2.00	2.00	1.50	1.70	1.70	1.36	£100,000 G Indit	Monthly	4.
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44	£100 - £9.999	Annually		5.00	4.00	4.70	4.70	3.76
37 29	group to 000,00012	Monthly	5.94	6.10	4.75	5.65	5.80	4.52
29	\$25,000 - \$39,999			5.75	4.48	5.32	5.45	4.25
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	225,000 - 239,999	Annually	4.40	4.40	3,52	4.10	4.10	3.28
	£10,000 - £24,999	Annually	3.90	3.90	3.12	3.60	3,60	2.88
8	2100 - 29,999	Annelally	3.50	3.50	2.80	3.20	3.20	2.56
	£100,000 or more	Monthly	4.89	5.00	3.91	4.65	4,75	3.72
36 30	225,000 - 299,999	Monthly	4.31	4.40	3.45	4.02	4.10	3.22
4	£10,000 - £24,999	Monthly	3.83	3.90	3.07	3.54	3,60	2.63
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\$25,000 or more \$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually Annually	5.00 4.50	5.00 4.50	4.00 3.60	4.70	4.70	3.76 3.36	Un
\$25,000 or more	Monthly	4.89	5.00	3.91	4.60	4.70	3.68	Ž
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### Pension funds' poor show BY ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

portfolios in the past one, three and five year periods, new research has shown (see Com-

mentary, this page). Gartmore, Mercury Asset Management, Phillips & Drew and Schroders all fall behind the median performance in the have become increasingly over- investment in US equities by

mandated pension fund money, recorded returns placing it in the upper quartile over one and five years, and was above. Schroders have more typical the median for three years. asset allocation policies for the median for three years.

NONE of the so-called big Gartmore, Phillips & Drew its funds in cash. The CAPS four independent pension, and Schroders, sit in the bot survey shows that P&D investigated investment managers tom quartile. However, Mornell 17 per cent manager of ornelling produced allowe average gan Grenfell, another leading pared with an average of 7 per returns in their mixed asset manager of independently cent, and had only 44 per cent manager in the part cent three managers and managers for independently cent, and had only 44 per cent managers in the part cent three managers in the part cent in UK equities compared with 54 per cent for the average. Gartmore, Mercury and

P&D has attracted much at- UK equities and cash but have tention for its view that shares still underperformed. Shallow Combined Acutarial Perform valued and for its strategy of all four groups appears to ance Services 1998 survey. keeping large proportions of have harmed their records.



# Focus on second-liners as FTSE gives up lead

CITY investors have stopped ploughing their money into blue chips, for the time being

instead they are on the lookout for value and have begun turning their attention to the second-liners. For the second day in a row the FTSE 250 index easily outperformed the top 100 companies, finishing 55.6 up at 4.958.9.

By contrast, a late futures-related sell-off saw the FTSE 100 index give up a lead of 83.4 to fin-ish 3.9 down on the day at 5.872.5 despite the positive start to trading on Wall Street. Total turnover reached 1.3 billion shares.

Sentiment generally remains underpinned by the steady stream of corporate deals and the weight of money finding its way into the marketplace.

Yesterday it was the turn of LucasVarity, up 7p to 2901:p, after receiving an offer of 288p a share from TRW. If the bid succeeds, a further E4 billion of cash will find its way back into the market. News of the deal provided a further boost to the rest of the vehicle engineering sector. Laird Group, the subject of intense speculative buying this week, firmed another 315p to 20215p with the speculators talking of an imminent bid from Fullarton of the US. Henlys was another fast mover, adding 44p at 4721:p in a thin market, while gains were also seen in Bostrom. 14p to 1571/p, and Britax International, 712p to 118p.

Bass was the best performer among the top 100 with a rise of 52%p to 851%p ahead of next week's annual general meet-ing. Dealers said stock shortages have put the bears under pressure. They sold the stock lower in the wake of recent profit warnings from rivals Whitbread, up lop at 850p. and Allied Domecq. 5p better

at 475½p. P&O, up 28p at 636½p, took encouragement from some positive comments from SG Securities, the broker, while Kingfisher rose a further 21p to 649p in response to this week's upbeat trading statement.

HSBC Securities, the broker, is taking a bearish line on the mortgage lenders. It was enough to undermine Abbey National, down 53p at £12.02, Alliance & Leicester, 304p at 7564p, Halifax, 32p at 7224p. Northern Rock, 9t-p at 488p. and Woolwich, 714p at 32614p. Christian Salvesen moved

off the bottom with a rise of 5p



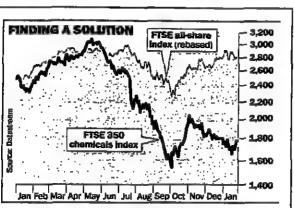
Lord Hollick saw United News & Media shares advance as Merrill Lynch, the broker, urged clients to accumulate

to 82% p with some large lines of stock going through on the ticker. This included a 2 buyer of 318,900 shares at 771:p. Other buyers gave 82p for 250,000

shares and 83p for 300,000. Systems Integrated continued to draw strength from Tuesday's interim results with the price adding a further 94sp to 28% p. The strength of the share price has been such that

the group was forced to admit on Wednesday that it knew of no reason for the movement. Cornwell Parker, up 21/4p at

871/2p. is in talks that could lead to a bid. Phillips & Drew, the broker, holds a 13 per cent stake. Recent weakness in its share price has made Morgan Cruci-ble more attractive to investors. The price rose 14p to 2021/2p as Merrill Lynch, the broker, up-



PHILLIPS & DREW, the broker, is becoming one of the most prolific dealmakers in the City.

Talk in the Square Mile claims it has agreed a management buyout of Albright & Wilson, where it has a 22.5 per cent stake, of about 110p a share. The shares responded with a rise of 104p to 761:p on turnover of 2.35 million shares.

in the past few weeks P&D has helped to broker a deal between Sears and

International's attempts to win control of the Mirror Стоир.

Elsewhere in the chemical sector, speculative buying hoisted Croda International 181/p to 2171/p. Laporte 64p to 519p, Yule Catto 14p to 254p and Brent International 74p to 1124p.

But ICI finished 244p down at 525p after Wednesday's mark-up. Traders are taking positions ahead of next week's results. There are fears the dividend may be cut following the latest

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graded its recommendation from "accumulate" to "buy" The shares have dropped from a peak of 274p in the past for night in the wake of a profit warning. Merrill says the shares have fallen far enough and says a "substantial" shar buyback appears to be on th cards. The company is also vul nerable to a bid approach. Merrill Lynch is also takin an increasingly bullish view of United News & Media, up 2314p at 547p, where it is urging clients to "accumulate". It say

Hollick, has been left behind by the rest of the media sector. Bowthorpe, up 14p at 3619:p, was cheered by the news that the company has appointed Salomon Smith Barney, the US securities house, as its broker. It intends to seek a level one American Depository Receipt facility

United, which is led by Lor

for its shares in New York. A move into the black by Laser-Scan has meant that the group has been trading profitably during the second half of the year. The company is dependent on low volume, high value business which can be unpredictable. The shares rose 3p to 15p.

News of a bumper contract over several years with British Telecorn turned out to be good news for Skillsgroup, up 19p at 214-p. The group will supply professional and informa-tion and technology training. Maiedie Investments shad

ed 145p to 345p after it emerged that Mark Barlow, a director. had sold 200,000 shares at 3464p. It reduces his holding to 2.76 million, or 5.26 per cent. Shares of AlM-listed Floral Street were suspended at 321:p

pending clarification of the company's financial position. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Investors experienced another lacklustre trading session with prices staging a late rally to close above their lows of the day. Dealers said the absence of any fresh economic news had left the market side railed.

in the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt finished 8p lower at £120.03 as a total of ,000 contracts were completed. In the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 lost 12p at £152.88, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was lp cheaper at £107.83.

☐ NEW YORK: Shares stayed near their highs in late morning trade, responding positively to merger news. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 80.84 at 9,281.07.

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#### No Mickey take has stimulated demand from the more tradi-MISYS, the IT company that produces software systems for banks, insurance companies tional players and led to the dilution of wor-ries about the US healthcare activities. Halfand US healthcare groups, bounced in and out of the FISE 100 as opinion swung first with the firm, and latterly against it. Recent worries were that it would make a hash of its move into the US; that it would be hit hard once Year 2000 and euro conversion demand worked through; and that banks

ter the millennium to bypass expensive Y2K compliance tests. The rather unkind "Mickey Misys" nickname had begun to stick. All the evidence from yesterday suggests that the fears are largely unfounded. Misys has shown there is a healthy market for its retail or "front-of-house" software products, especially among upstart financial services players such as Virgin and Tesco. This, in turn.

were delaying investment in software until af-

year profits were up 83 per cent and the fizz was quite definitely back in the share price. Caution is still advised. The company has effected a big strategic U-turn in switching ive sales focus from large to small players. The ability to produce like for like sales figures and the healthcare division also saps confidence.

Overall, however, future prospects look good. Organic growth is tangible and invesfors can expect acquisitions too, given the company's ability to generate enormous amounts of cash. Misys burnt off £100 million of debt last year alone. The shares closed 86p higher yesterday at 584p; they trade on a forward p/e multiple of about 35 — relatively cheap for a quality IT company. Buy.

#### **Bryant Group**

BRYANT'S reassuring news on the state of the housing market and on housebuild ers, led a welcome rally in the price of its shares yes Bryant stock rose 6 per cent to 88p yesterday. Berkeley did even better, advancing more

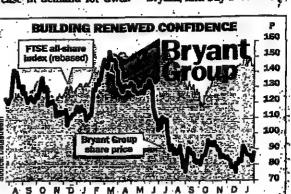
than 8 per cent to 427½p.
Others also perked up.
Not before time. Housebuilding stocks have been
well and truly hammered in the past year as fears spread about the ability of these residential property companies to withstand the economic slowdown. The recession of the early 1980s certainly hit hard and those bad memories have lived long enough to send housebuilding shares to low single figure pe

On the evidence of Bryant's figures, the fears about housebuilding shares are over

done, big time. The economic slowdown does not look to be nearty so painful as in the early 1990s. The builders' balance sheets are not nearly as stretched. Interest rates and the ratio of house prices to average earnings are also favourable. Most crucially, the disintegration of the family unit is driving a huge increase in demand for dwell-

ings in this country. As a nation we are becoming more independent - either through divorce, or through the desire to live away from parents.

Planning constraints may mean that builders cannot grow as fast as they would like. But that doubt does not merit the pitiful earnings multiples of 5, 6 and 7 times. Buy Bryant, and buy the sector



#### **Premier Farnell**

THE 18 per cent rise in Premier Farnell's share price yesterday looks an over-excited response to the company's plan to "invest for growth". If spending money was all it took to create wealth for his shareholders, John Hirst, the new chief executive, would have an easy job. Admittedly, the shares

were looking oversold on less than six times the earnings forecast for the year just ending. However, the electronics distributor has made a comprehensive hash of just about everything over the past couple of years, and its markets still do not look encouraging.

It beggars belief that a large and newly merged company spent £30 million on new computer systems without making sure that the different parts were compatible. A big chunk of Mr Hirst's investment will go on sorting out this mess. The result should be that Premier Farnell will be able to produce catalogues with more attractive product offerings. An increased emphasis on marketing, sales training and key customers should also help.

Mr Hirst is a reassuring presence but his company still has much to prove. In particular, it sounds as if Newark Electronics in the US may have some deep-seated problems, and it will not be helped by a slowing American economy. The shares rate an unenthusiastic hold.

#### Portsmouth & Sunderland

IT IS decision day for holders of shares in Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers, the publisher and convenience store retailer. The tender offer of up to 10 per cent of the P&S shares from Johnston

Press closes tomorrow.
On the face of it, the tender looks to be one for mugs. At £16.87½p the current market price is higher than the tender price. Moreover, John-ston bought 14.99 per cent of P&S last week and seems to be gearing up for a full-scale bid. It might be forced to pay more than £16, certainly if an auction breaks out with other

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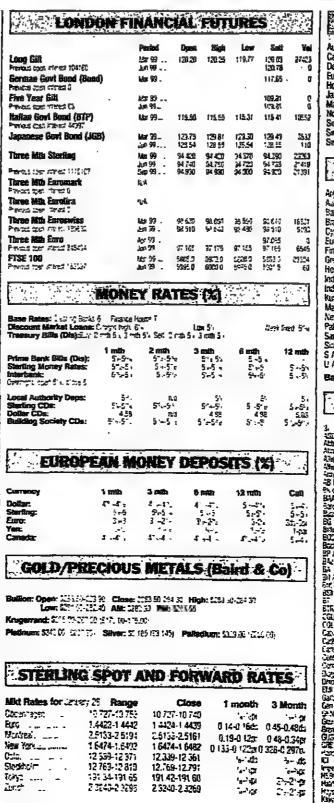
egional media groups. But there are some big buts. P&S shares trade in an exceedingly tight market The current price is set in reference to minimal trading and could be misleadingly high. A big trade would send the price down sharply. Also, there are no confirmed re-ports of rival bid interest and at 17 time earnings, the £16

also looks a decent price. Most pertinently, however Tolmston's existing stake means it is already set for a monopolies investigation which will hold up a bid proper for months, and may block it. Shareholders may get more than £16 if a bid comes. But hedge by tendering for at least part of your holding.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

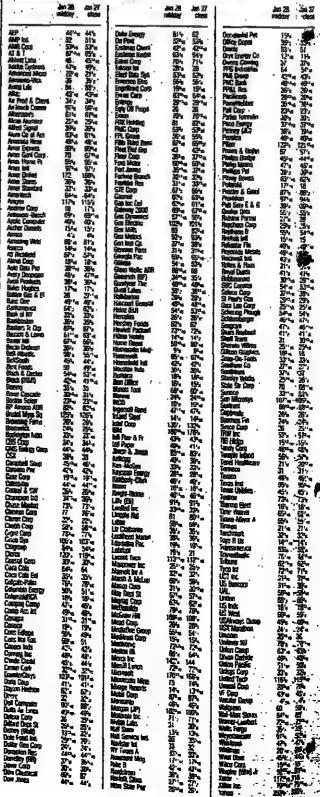
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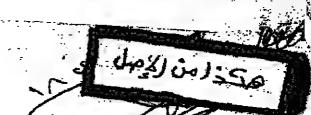




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# A good case for cancelling the Budget

lastair Ross Goobey, the chief executive of agement who is writing else-where on this page, is fond of explaining how, as a special adviser to Nigel Lawson, he offered some peerless advice ahead of the 1987 Budget. Stand up, take a sip of your drink and sit down again, Mr R is Goobey recommended. Leave the economy to take care of itself for a year.

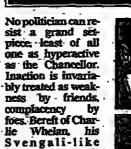
Of course, Mr Lawson mow Lord Lawson of Blaby) ig-nored these words, embarking instead on a tax-cutting ences for the medium-term health of the economy and

As 1999 Budget day approaches, Gordon Brown could do worse than to beed. the same advice. The economy is at one of those delicate moments, where even the most confident economist is

ate outlook. Growth is slow-ing, but how far and how fast is anyone's guess. Launching against this background could have as unforeseen and counter-productive consequences as the Lawson tax cuts. Cancelling the Budget would also be just about the

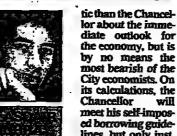
best help that the Government could provide for business. Companies already have plen-ty to contend with There are euro and millennium bug contingency plans to prepare. The Government's raft of new workplace legislation needs to be absorbed. Above all, businesses face the tricky task of developing their own response to the downturn. The last thing needed at this juncture is a crop of well-intentioned but complex changes to

Sadly, Mr Brown is not going to get up and do nothing.



Brown will want to show he can still pack a political punch. He is also desperate to give his party, still mired in the post-Mandelson gloom, something to cheer at last. However, as David Walton,

the Goldman Sachs: economist, charted earlier this week. the Chancellor has limited room for manoeuvre, Goldman is slightly more pessimis-



City economists. On its calculations, the meet his self-imposed borrowing guide-lines, but only just. There is no case for a "giveaway" Budget, which would risk a considerable deterioration in the health of the public finances. At the same

gency tightening measures, which risk exaggerating the downturn as well as causing So what will Mr Brown do?

finally to unveil the new 10p

time, there is no need for emer-

tax rate, but he will have to find tax rises elsewhere to fund the new band. The last remnant of mortgage interest tax relief is the obvious target, but the Prime Minister may well veto the abolition of this vestige of middle class privilege. The alternative is to replace

the existing 20p tax band with the new 10p rate. This has the virtue of maintaining simplici-ty but, as the Institute of Fiscal Studies calculates, the Chan-cellor would be able to apply the new rate to only the first £880 of taxable income if fiscal neutrality is to be maintained. Hardly the kind of reform to

set the country alight.
Productivity measures will also loom large. Yet it is far from clear exactly where Britain's productivity problems re-side. The debate over the past year has, if anything, confused matters, and, for every expert lor that the UK lags America,

there is one ready to argue that the country's performance is not nearly as poor as imagined. There is a strong argument that the problem can only be resolved by non-budgetary measures such as competi-tion, product regulation and planning law reforms. The Chancellor is inclined to

tamper yet again with R&D tax credits and capital allowances in the hope of improving investment performance. The IFS, however, argues that these re-forms will benefit no one except the accountancy industry. No matter how grandly such reform is dressed up on Budget day, it is unlikely to amount to anything more than tinkering at the edges. But what the country really needs at this moment, is a new Charlie Whelan to explain how the Chancellor can-

celled this year's Budget, not

through indecision but "mas-

gy in companies we under-stand, but most of these devel-

opments have taken place within relatively mature com-

panies with at least a notional

quote. At the cutting edge of

technology, in a single project

company, we are unable to do

effective due diligence into the

technology; we do not have

those specific skills, and nor

do most institutional inves-

tors. Even most of the private

equity fund managers claim

that their great contribution is

to add proper financial and

management skills to a won-

In my experience, a finan-

cial investor gains much more

comfort from investing along-

side a company that has direct

knowledge of the relevant tech-

nology. The Wellcome Trust is

the largest funding institution

for medical research in the

UK; would we be more likely

to invest in a biotech invest-

ment as a partner with Well-

come than either by ourselves

or via a private equity special-

ist? Absolutely.

ter me 'help yourself'.

ogy out of their direct profit

and loss account; investing to-

gether with informed trade investors; investing with fund managers whose fee structure

does not insulate them from the pain of failure, instead of,

as now, exposing them only to

the pleasure of success; these

are what we will seek.

derful technology.

# William Ford aims to show he's in the driving seat

Oliver August reports on the car group's deal to buy Volvo and

the background to the purchase

any chairmen have told a rapt audience at annual meetines that their company is what they hold dearest in all the world. But when William Clay Ford Jr says so, he actually sounds genuine.

The chairman of The Ford Motor Company, which yes-terday bought Volvo's car div-ision, has jockeyed all his life to reach the top post. At the age of 41, the great-grandson of Henry Ford, the group's founder, finally assumed the mantle of power at the family carmaking firm last year. The Volvo deal is his first

big move. William Ford got his chance when Alex Trotman, the British-born executive chairman, retired. Mr Trotman, 65, had been expected to stay a further year but said he chose to go early as the revamping of Ford had proceeded ahead of schedule.

This amounted to a huge victory for William Ford. He had been head of the company finance committee and played a leading role in the turnround. However, as chairman be has to share power with Jac Nasser, the wily Australian who was made chief executive. The Volvo deal is as much his as William Ford's.

The new division of power at the car group reflects the continued influence of the Ford family that holds 40 per cent of the voting shares. The family has long been the royalty of Detroit, and the subject of intense local interest.

William Ford was groomed as a successor at the behest of the family. He is the first family member to lead the company since Henry Ford II bowed out in 1980 after 35 years at the wheel. Henry Ford I was in charge for only ten years from 1908 until 1918. Mr Trouman said: "Over

T t is the vehicle through which we make such inthese past several months, the vestments that will deterboard has discussed succession following my retirement mine our strategy in this area, not the jawboning of govand has concluded that the ernment. As fiduciaries, we have a responsibility to invest wisely for our clients. We cannot respond eagerly to promoters who effectively ask us to open your wallets and say af-Partnerships with companies that want to take an exciting, but high-risk, new technol-

roles of the chairman and of the chief executive officer should be separated. Jac is al-ready running the largest part of the company and, with Bill as chairman of the board, we have tremendous strength and continuity as we move forward." William Ford is described as a serious, soft-spoken executive who helped to create a school for gifted children near Ford headquarters. This is in marked contrast to more tempestuous relatives who have had his job. Unlike his great-grandfather, he is unlikely ever to mutter: "You can have your car any colour you like as long as it's black."

The new chairman has held a variety of jobs at the company, including manag-ing director of Ford Switzerland, vice-president of the commercial truck centre and head of the climate control division. He divides his spare time between reading about the American Civil War and American football.

His father, William Ford Sr. owns the Detroit Lions team. He has made his son vice-chairman — a move that will endear him to the tens of thousands of car workers employed at Ford. But it wasn't always clear that William Ford would be chosen by family elders to run the car business.

e had an ambitious rival in Edsel Ford Jr. another grandson of Henry Ford. The 49-year-old is also the son of Henry Ford II, who rebuilt the company after the Second World War. But early last year Edsel Ford decided to step down from his post as president of Ford's car lending division and said he would not take another executive position. Since 1991 he had been the president of the Ford Motor Credit Company, which is the world's largest provider of car loans and leases and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ford Motor. While Ford Credit thrived during the early years of Mr Ford's management, it ran into problems in the past two years.

But given the 40 per cent voting stake of the family, it is unlikely that he was forced out. The real reason for his departure is believed to be his realisation that William Ford had gained a comfortable lead in the race to the top.

Six months later Alex Trotman resigned and set the reshuffle in motion. At the time. William Ford said: "I want to serve this company to the very best of my ability. The Ford Motor Company is my heritage, and has always been part of my life." The standing ovation at the next annual meeting is guaranteed.



William Ford is keenly aware of the family heritage

# Institutional investors must play part in wealth creation

russ one of the fund manegors bobind the move He excitains why investors must play a more active

he subject of corporate governance is moving on again. I bope we may be approaching a time where investors may be left to be assisting in wealth creation, rather than merely policing their agents. I believe there is a near-universal acceptance that it is in the power of the investing institutions to fill such a role: the question is how, and in what

Just over five years ago, Sir Martin Jacomb (who was then by chairman and is now chair-man of Prudential) and I decided that we should write to the chairmen of the FTSE 100 constituent companies about long rolling contracts for executives. These seemed to us to be the instruments through which failing executives were. given large payments to leave the companies they had already harmed.

In 1994, according to research by HayGroup into the top 500 companies, 58 per cent of chief executives had such contracts, and 47 per cent of other executive directors. The 1998 figures suggest that only 2 per cent of chief executives now have these contracts, and there are no other executive directors with them. The three-year contract is no more, indeed, the Greenbury committee came\_ out in favour of one-year contracts, although there is a fairly even split between one and two years in the universe re-

searched by HayGroup.

Although, of course, I am drawing attention to these results with some personal satisfaction, my point is more general. If one institution, owning between 1 and 2 per cent of the UK equity market, acting on its own initiative, can achieve this change, what may we all In 1993 there were several of John Denham, the now ex-Pen-



our peers who thought ours was a funile gesture. Even if they believed in the purpose, they could see no point in up-setting their clients in pursuit of an unattainable goal. Very few institutions joined, privately or publicly, in pushing for changes in contracts. Yet, because they were indefensible, and because there was enough adverse comment from shareholders to make the subject awkward, the worm turned.

The Government sees the institutional fund managers, or their clients: as the drivers of change in UK industry. They want us all to vote our shares, and to act responsibly as representatives of the ultimate owners. While I have no quarrel with this as a starting point, I am beginning to worry about the specific instruction that the Government seems to be tempted to give us as to how to vote or act, as, they see it, responsibly. Let me give two examples.

sions Minister, has, in his recently published consultation document, drafted a regulation for the inclusion of a policy on ethics in a pension fund's statutory statement of investment principles. The draft is couched in general terms: "The statement must cover whether the trustees take into account any considerations other than financial considerations, and, if so, what these are and how investment decisions are affected."

he first part should present little difficulty to most scheme trustees. All trustees must be in favour of the companies in which they invest being run in their long-term interests, which short-term unethical behaviour will under-

. If, however, trustees are being invited to take positions on arms manufacturers, tobacco companies or the other politital pariahs, we may be forced into the absurd position of one ethical investor many years ago. When asked why it had only half its normal-sized investment in ICL the response was "we are not investing in the explosives division".

It is well nigh impossible to draw a precise line between the ethical and the politically correct. Our view is that the next natural development of responsible stewardship is to push more actively for change in underperforming compa-nies. Far too often, the institutions intervene when vast amounts of shareholder value have already been poured away. Our focus funds in the UK and US, and our alliance with CalPers are intended to give more force to that initiative. After all, if not the investing institutions, who?

The second example of goverriment exhortation is the drive to persuade investors to pour money into early stage and development capital in the UK. The fact is that the track

record of such investment in the past ten years is very poor. The returns achieved have, according to the British Ven-ture Capital Association's (BVCA) own statements, been ess than conventional UK or overseas equities, or even bonds. The BVCA brings no

credit to itself by quoting overall figures for private equity returns that are dominated by MBO funds, where financial leverage and a bull market in equities has convinced the managers of their own genius. These numbers have nothing at ail to do with high-tech start-ups. The private equity fund managers are, naturally, supporting the perceived need; they will see the value of their own businesses escalate rapidly if they capture some of these nvestment flows.

It is not that I think earlystage and development capital investment is anathema to our clients. We have demonstrated many times that we are prepared to back specific technolo-

It is a little rich for a Government that has taken more than £100 million a year from our clients alone by removing tax credits, to ask us to tie up more of their money for longer periods at higher risk. If we had the cashflow that has been taken from us, we would be in a much better position to help.

Alastair Ross Goobev is chief executive of Hermes Pensions Management.

The meeting was slated for half

and hour and went on for twice that. Komansky left hatchet-faced and re-

fused to say a thing. The Elysée put out some hogwash about how they discussed the regulation of world fi-

nancial markets which no one could

But my man in Paris points out

make much sense of.

# Smoke screen

HERE is the paradox: you are an in-surance firm that must, for commercial reasons, charge smokers more for life insurance because the statistics show that cigarettes shorten their lives. But you are owned by a company that makes fags and insists, against all the evidence, that smokng is a harmless pleasure. I had wondered how the former in-

surance arm of BAT Industries, our piggest maker of coffin nails, squared this particular circle. Now Phil Hod-



"Miss Jones, ask the chairman to oring me through a coffee"

kinson, chief executive at Allied Dunbat has let me in on the following jesuitical explanation...

Cigarettes do not harm one's health, so the spin goes. But the statistics show that smokers und to die earfier of other causes - anything from car accidents to being murdered. If so, they must be charged higher insurance premiums.

ingenious, is it not? And also true smokers are statistically more likely to die early of other causes than non-smokers.

The reason, in case you had not guessed, is that they tend to come from lower down the social scale and/ or to be on low incomes. Such people are, statistically, more likely to succumb to various causes of death than those further up the social ladder. Amazing what you can prove with

MOST brutal mugging of the English language this week is by Havas, the French advertising sales agency, with the following: "The international realignment of several Procter & Gamble brands handled until now by EURO RSGC Worldwide affects essentially those accounts handled on the North American market by EURO RSGC Tatham but in no way



dan McGrath Case & Partners EURO RSGC nor Lally McFarland 8 Pantello EURO RSGC They really do talk like this, these

marketing idiots. Does anyone have the faintest idea what they are trying

#### Swiss role

ADAIR TURNER'S powers of persuasion were stretched beyond breaking point on the tarmac at Heathrow Airport yesterday. The CBI Director-General was one of a party heading off to Zurich and thence to the Davos World Economic Forum when news came through that the airport there had been closed.

Unfortunately the aircraft was does it affect accounts held by Jor- owned by SwissAir, a carrier not not- national finance, everyone assumes.

ed for its charm and kindness towards paying customers, so the crew refused to let passengers off the flight. After a tiresome two-hour wait Turner was seconded to go forward to try to persuade them to let everyone return to the terminal. He did his best, and reported back: "I think the negotiations are coming to a conclu-

To which the humourless stewardess responded: "Is that an example of your British sarcasm?"

AS YOU will have noticed, Lucocade has been given the product makeover with the help of sportsmen such as Daley Thompson and Alan Shearer. Now this winter's flu has meant a 25 per cent jump in sales.
Peter Harding at SmithKline Bee-

cham admits this is not quite what the marketing geniuses had in mind. "We have been repositioning Lucoz-ade from primarily a convolescence drink to primarily an energy drink," he babbles. "But if we sell more product, we're not disappointed."

#### French leave

GREAT puzzlement in Paris about a flying visit by David Komansky, the Master of the Universe who is chairman and chief executive of Merrill Lynch, Komansky requested an interview with Jacques Chirac, French President and a man not terribly interested in the minutiae of inter-

that Chirac is best friends with Boris Yeltsin, at least when the Russian premier can remember who anyone is. His support would be essential for EU backing for any bailout being put together by Wall Street. We shall see.

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk

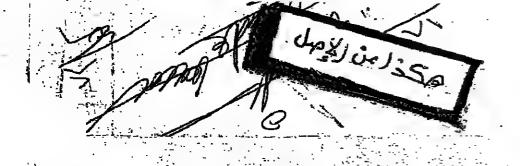


David Komansky's brief Paris trip left most observers in the dark

#### LOOKING FOR A SCHOOL? John Catt Educational Ltd publish

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# Internet triggers data boom

he telecommunications industry is in a frenzy. Its traditional trade, telephone calls (including faxes) is growing at 6 per cent a year in the West. Such a rise would be enviable in many industries, yet it pales when compared with the estimated growth in data traffic, which consultants put at about 150 per cent a year in developed countries.

That figure comes from Deloitte Consulting. Most of this new traffic has been generated by the Internet. which consumers and many businesses access via the telephone network.

The biggest companies have a dedicated link, With these phenomenal rates of growth, it will not be long before data transmission surpasses vocal interchange as the dominant form of long-distance communication. It is already happening in Britain. Last November Bill Cockburn, the managing director of British Telecom, announced that more data is transmitted over BT's telephone network than voice calls.

Things have moved fast since then. Freeserve, a free Internet access service launched last September by the Dixons Group, the electrical retailer, now has 900.000 customers, making it the world's fastest-growing Internet service provider. Dixons reckons an average of 8,000 people join its service daily, 40 per cent of whom are

new to the Internet. Freeserve provides free Net access, electronic mail service, UK-based news and 15 megabytes of Web space per customer.

It makes money by receiving a small percentage of the cost of the local call necessary to connect the user to the Net, which varies between one and six pence per minute. Dixons claims to save consumers an average of £150 a year, compared with "traditional" Internet service providers, which typically charge a monthly fee.

The Dixons experience is illustrative of a change across the developed world. It is now widely accepted that telecoms underpin just about every other industry, so many countries are opening up their telecoms markets to competition after years of resistance. At the beginning of last year, most of the European Union member countries opened their telecom sectors to full competition, while much of Latin America and parts of Asia are doing

New players are keen to enter liberalised markets because the combination of new technology and lower overheads means that they can compete with the incumbent operator, which was likely to have been part of the civil service, not a commercial organisation with shareholder pressures.

As Dixons has shown to great effect, in this new, multilayered market, there is a great opportunity for

non-telecoms companies to be successful service providers, leaving others to provide the infrastructure and

administration.

A whole new breed of telecoms service providers has grown up to exploit new markets and the insatiable demand for more capacity, or bandwidth. Companies such as World-Com, Carrier I and Level 3 recognised that by building their own inter-

'People in the street are having a marvellous time. They are getting

better services for

less and less money'

national networks, they could circumnavigate the accounting rate system — the way in which the former monopolies carved up revenue from international calls between them through a series of agreements

through a series of agreements.

The new generation is building infrastructure using cheaper, newer technologies that can provide huge

Naturally, they install more capacity than they actually need and sell it on to other carriers who, elsewhere in the world, are probably their rivals.

This process has given rise to an industry that is complex in structure, increasingly works through arbitrage and has spawned many niche service opportunities, such as that grasped by Dixons. Analysts estimate that the Freeserve initiative has added £1 to the Dixons share price. That would make Freeserve worth £433 million if it were a separate company, according to the industry newspaper Communications Week International. Dixons hopes to make a great deal more money in the future from advertising and Net commerce. The UK market for Net retail sales could be as

market for Net retail sales could be as much as £2.8 billion by 2003.

With the promise of such riches, it is little wonder that all around the world, the telecoms sector has defied gravity. For example, the financial markets were in turmoil in October, when the first tranche of the former Swiss monopoly's shares was sold, yet the shares were massively oversubscribed. Altogether, more than £24 billion was raised in telecoms and related stock on the world's stock markets in 1008.

markets in 1998.

WorldCom, the aggressive US-based company that surprised everyone by snatching MCI from BT's acquisitive jaws last year; has based its

entire business plan on the fact that it will keep growing at an amazing rate —and the financial sector has backed it to the bilt

it to the hilt.

Marcus de Ferranti is the managing director and co-founder of Band-X, based in London. Two years ago, the company was the first in the world to offer bandwidth for sale on the open market, matching up prospective buyers and sellers for a flat fee. The service has become increasingly sophisticated so that it now operates like a quasi-stock market and has emutators in other advanced markets such as the US and Canada.

Mr de Ferranti says: "Rates on international routes are plummeting. Once a country liberalises its relecommunications, prices usually fall by a factor of ten in two years. Everyone thinks prices are going to hit rock bottom and stabilise, but they just keeping going down and the speed of their fall is catching everyone out. At the moment, competition in the wholesale market is fierce and lots of people are selling below cost. I believe the bubble will burst within the next couple of years and that will drive a massive period of consolidation."

Mr de Ferranti adds: "Some people will lose money on the stock market, but the person in the street is having a marvellous time. They are the real beneficiaries, getting better and better services for less and less money."



High hopes an Iridium satellite is powered into space

# Iridium fights back in war of satellites

n November the first salvo was fired in the battle for supremary in satellite mobile phones — but so far it has failed to set the world

abiaze.

Iridium, the first into the marketplace, has launched 66 satellites into low Earth orbit (LEO) — 468 miles high. These transmit calls around the world and down to 12 Earth stations or "gateways", where they link with the terrestrial phone network. But technical problems, poor transmission quality, lack of handsets and criticisms about costs have

dogged Iridium's early days.
Figures released last week
show that there has been little
take-up of subscriptions globally, and not a single handsethas been sold in Britain.

Satellite phones have, of course, been around for years. Briefcase sized, they must be set up in advance and aimed at a satellite 21,240 miles above the Equator, so you are unable to call someone travelling around — you must wait until they call you. Because of the lower orbit, Iridium handsets need less power, are lighter and more portable. Made by Motorola and Kyocera, they look like mobile phones with bigger antennae, and cost around £2,200.

Travellers

in remote

countries

will be

able to

call home

was intended to revolutionise communications for business travellers outside the conventional cellular network and to attract people working in less developed countries, users of commercial and leisure boats, long-dis-

tions.

Signals travel more quickly to LEO satellites, reducing the delay that can make conversation so awkward.

Iridium has recruited con-

ventional cellular service providers as "roaming partners" to make the links in cities — in the UK it is Orange. Iridium also offers worldwide paging services and a GSM-style short message service, and has promised e-mail and fax. But the firm has been heavily criticised for the complexity of its cost structure, in which it acts as a wholesaler, selling airtime to the gateway operators. It sells it to the service providers and roaming partners.

Andrew Tolputt is a telecoms market analyst at Phillips Tarifica, which monitors telecom pricing. He says: "Service providers can set prices at what they feel the market justifies. It's a global system, so you can go to a service

who sell it at retail prices to the

provider in a cheaper region."

Lance Stevens, the business development manager at Orange, cites as an example the cost of an Iridium call from the UK to America of £3 per

roviders

no seek

minute and to China of £4.22. For those who are not already Orange customers, there are also connection and monthly subscription charges — as well as the cost of the phone. However, Orange is still testing the service and is not yet offering it to consumers. Multinational businesses are in a position to select the service provider which offers the best deal. Is this unfair to

individuals?
Craig Bond, Iridium's vicepresident of market development, says: "Each country has different taxes and import tariffs on handsets and pagers differences over which we have no control. Shopping

around is inevitable."

Even then, the cost of going mobile by satellite is still considerable. Jonathan Morgan-Jones, a researcher with the Telecom Managers' Association, says: "Iridium has chosen a sensible model because it is flexible. You can use your current cellular service provider, and put your Subscriber Indentification, Module (SIM) card

in an Iridium phone. But the filpside is the cost — due to their need to recover their investment quickly."

Costs will be brought into focus this autumn when Globalstar, a consortium led by Loral Space & Communica-

2000, ICO Global Communications also launches a satelline phone service. As well as voice and paging services, Globalstar plans to offer fax, data transmission and position location services. ICO claims the highest data

and position location services.

ICO claims the highest data rates among its immediate competition but is focusing on voice, fax and e-mail.

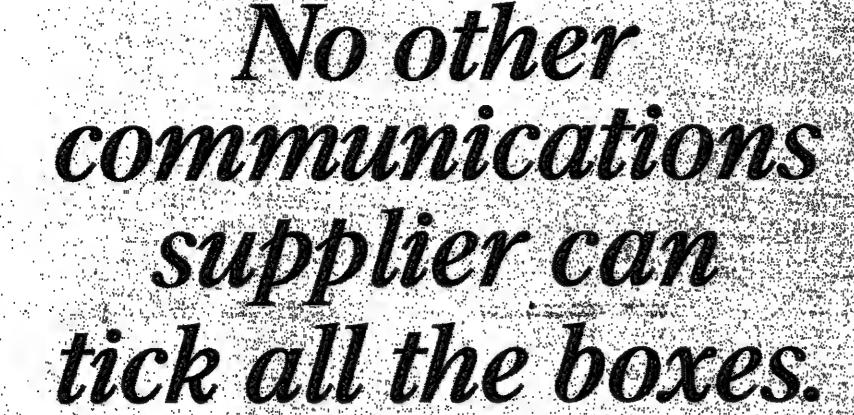
I ike Iridium, both competitions are better any location.

petitors are planning to sell wholesale time to service providers. Handsets are expected to cost £600 and airtime costs are estimated at £1 per minute by Globalstar and £1.20 by ICO.

Both companies are also targeting parts of the world with little or no telecoms infrastructure. ICO has struck a deal with the payphone manufacturer. Landis & Gyr to provide satellite phone booths.

Mike Johnson, global media director for ICO, says that developing world services will be subsidised by those for business travellers.

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for Telecommunications approval.

in good working order.

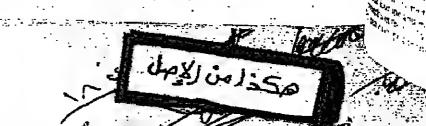
BT's call charging accuracy has British Approvals Board

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\*The World's Most Admired Companies, FORTUNE\* magazine, 29th October 1998.



### A future of colour and whiz-bangs

he world's existing telecommunications network is coming to the end of its useful are, a notion that is hard to grasp in the light of its current

Last year, international phone calls amounted to abour 90 billion minutes, up from 82 billion in 1997, according to the Geneva-based International Telecommunication Union. Yet by volume (as opposed to value) international calls account for only 2 per cent of the total number, the vast majori-

ty of which are local calls. The existing network was built to carry phone calls -soon destined to become a small portion of the traffic gen-erated by developed countries where data traffic is growing by as much as 150 per cent a year. This is because of the apparently inexorable rise of the Internet which has 100 million pisers, a number expected to double in the next 18 months,

This is causing capacity shortages on many routes, particularly transatiantic links, because at least 60 per cent of Internet traffic is still routed

via America. Marie Wold, the head of the European Telecommunica-tions and Media Institute at Deloitte Consulting, points out that the next generation of mobile phones (which will be available from 2002 onwards) is being designed to deal with data as well as voice. She predicts: "By 2010 about 90 per cent of traffic on mobile net-

works will be data." It is not just the volume that is creating problems, but the phone network's use of circuit switching which maintains a live, dedicated link between the parties during a telephone

This is a very inefficient use of network capacity, or bandwidth, especially when compared with data's use of packetswitched technology. Here data is chopped up into small packets, each of which is addressed to the recipient and sequentially numbered.

Tomorrow's digital and mobile phones will supply customers with voice, data and other services, says Annie Turner

the mesh of the network and might take different routes to reach their destinations, being row, says: "IP will be a tremendous unifying factor. We will end up with a single network reach their destinations, being reassembled in the right order at the far end using their sequence numbers. Packets can also be interleaved with those from other transmissions en route.

The technology used "packetise" a voice, so that it is treated as just another type of data, is advancing in leaps and bounds, Still images and video, too, can be transmitted in this way, which means that many types of traffic can be treated in a uniform fashion, leveraging economies of scale for network operators and greatly simplifying network management

The Internet appears both to have created the problem and provided a solution for it in the shape of Internet Protocol (IP). This is the transport mechanism which comprises rules to ensure the smooth running of the network, averting traffic jams and collisions on the Internet and on the new generation of networks.

And IP will not only rule on core networks. There is a host of new "access technologies" that will ensure that IP traffic flows right into people's homes — fixed wireless links might be employed or the exist-ing copper cabling in the ground, but with whiz-bang electronics on the exchange and consumer ends of the line.

By whatever means it is delivered, IP will mean that consumers have digital links from end-to-end, but with far faster line speeds than are currently available with Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN).

Bob Brace, the marketing director with Nokia Telecom-

connection into the home for

games, multiple phone lines

for different members of the

family, video-on-demand, uc-

cess to information and electronic mail. "You will be able to download the latest CD — or just the parts of it you want — instead of having to go to the shop or listen to a Californian radio station online,"

The American television channel NBC is already exploring new ways of delivering information in addition to broad-

casting, Mr Brace says.
'This includes cable television infrastructure and the Internet," he says.. "Television as

age technology in ten years."

Likewise advances in the core transmission network are dwarfing current fibre-optic capacities. A new technology known as Wave Division Multiplexing (WDM) splits up the light signal into colours, producing multiple different-length signals which can be transmitted simultaneously.

Originally, one fibre pair the capacity to carry 32,000 voices at once. Two years ago Ciena, one of the pio-neers of WDM, deployed a cable that could simultaneously support 16 different length signals or channels, which means it can carry the equivalent of 512,000 voice calls, according to Guy Powell, the managing director of Ciena for Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

He says: "Systems with 96 channels will shortly be deployed that will support almost three million calls at once. In data terms, that translates to one terabit [a million million bits]."



Using lasers to break white light into multiple colours allows a single fibre to carry a million-plus phone calls per second

### **Providers** who seek a Net profit

new breed of business, the Internet service provider or ISP, has from the rapid growth of Internet traffic. For a monthly subscription, providers such as Yahoo!, Demon, Pipex, Virgin Net and Direct Connection will connect you to the Net and provide an e-mail address.

Connecting your computer to a modem allows you to transmit data on the phone line. When you log on to the ISP's host computer or server. you can send and receive messages, as well as access online information and surf the World Wide Web, for the price of a local phone call.

It sounds like a lot of investment for the ISP for very little return. But the

David

**Bowie** 

will be

doing live

chats on

profit area is electronic combanking or shopping over the Net Being an ISP opens the door to business opportunities are starting up all the time. Tes-co is offering an ISP service in ex-

the Web home shopping revolution that could see a fleet of vans deliver groceries that have been or-

dered on the Web. And the rock star David Bowie has set up an ISP. Alex Judd of Presco, a Net ad agency, says: "The man will do live chats. The site is sold on novel-

BT claims that the Net has a BT claims that the Net has a
6 per cent market penetration
in the UK and that it is likely
to rise greatly with the coming
of digital TV when set top boxes will be able to bring the Net
into the home. More than
1.3 million households have access to the Net, making them online customers for the ISPs. But Net opportunities are international and many of the

big players — such as America Online, Excite Inc and CompuserveUK — originated in the US. Marie Wold of Deloine Consulting says ISPs are doubling their business every five or six mouths throughout Europe and every three months in the US. We're seeing massive proliferation;

there doesn't appear to be a slowdown."

The decision by Dixons to offer free Net access - which it can do through a deal with the telecommunications company Energis - is putting the pressure on other ISPs to offer more value. And with the growing revenues from online advertising and e-commerce, ISPs are able to offer some good deals.

Virgin Net has gone for subsidised rather than free Net access. David Johnson, its commercial director, says: "We're evolving into something even more closely aligned to the Virgin brand and we are making the most of retail opportuni ties in areas of business that Virgin operates in." Subscrib-

ers can book their Virgin flights, buy CDs, or listen to Virgin radio and - through a tie in with Citibank enjoy free home banking and current accounts that pay in-

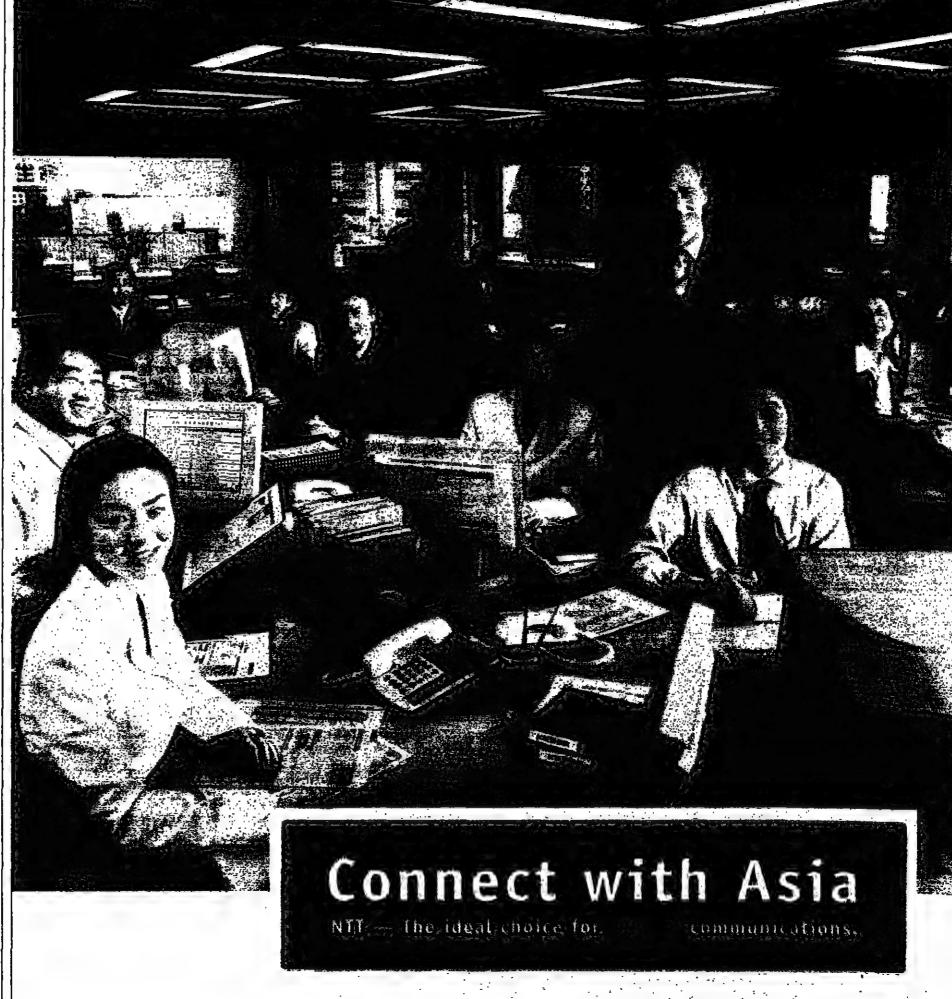
The rapidly evolving ISPs are finding that to cash in on ecommerce, they need to build customer loyalty. ISPs are trying hard to differentia themselves by offering useful services to

customers -- content such as news, music and sport, as well as chat communities and subscriber offers. Quality of service is a big issue, as anyone who has experienced the frustrations of connecting at times

of peak demand can testify. Presco's Mr Judd says: "Many ISPs are investing in more powerful infrastructure to ensure a faster service, better support and a better conthe hassle factor comes into it if you always get connected al. Some ISPs are offering subscribers free Web space to set

up their own site." Each ISP can exploit a different niche market. Pipez, for example offers an information service aimed at journalists. One of the biggest niche markets is education - eventually 30,000 UK schools will be linked to the National Grid

STEPHEN HOARE



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### Dawn of a new age for Japan

The multimedia market is set to play a major part in the country's economy, says Ruth Taplin

The test will be whether

companies can successfully

challenge Western rivals

THE subtlety and understatement of Japanese culture often makes it appear that little is happening in the country. However, in the telecommunications and IT sectors, change

is occurring rapidly at all levels.

Digital TV broadcasting has brought multimedia into the mainstream of Japanese society, producing links between telecommunications, broadcasting and information services. The multimedia markets are restructuring and laying the groundwork for future growth. With high-speed, high-vol-ume communications made possible by fibre optic networks, teleshopping, home com-munications, karaoke, Internet TV and digital versatile disk (DVD) are all being planned for the 21st century to support the economy

in the future.

DVD, the latest in CD-Rom technology. has a huge storage capacity, able to provide up to 133 minutes of video playback time.
The Japanese Ministry of Post and
Telecommunications has predicted that 123
rillion yen will be spent by consumers on
the multimedia market by 2010. Internet

becoming more established; the Multimedia Contents Association of Japan (MMCA) has (MMCA) found that Internet users total

more than ten million. E-mail. personal computer communications and network shopping at virtual shopping centres are becoming more usual in Ja-

The restructuring of existing networks such as NTT and KDD and newly created networks such as international Digital Communications (IDC), Teleway Japan (TWJ) and Nippon Tsusin (IDO) and Japan Telecom are laying the foundations for new Internet-related businesses that involve electronic money and Internet telephones.

Competition in Japan is growing — exem-plified by the fact that 123 Type I telecommunications businesses now exist in the country. Although NTT remains the largest company - dominating long-distance and local services with turnover of more than \$60 billion — its predominance is now being

KDD, once involved only in international calls, now offers a domestic phone service that can provide cheaper calls than NTT in categories exceeding 12 miles. Competition is forcing NTT and KDD to offer more attractive rates. The Toyota Motor Corporation (TMC) is a good example of how the deregulated new communications networks operate in Japan: TMC is the major equity sharer in TWJ, IDC and IDO.

TWJ is involved in a number of services. such as the 0070 Freephone, a call connect service, VPN (Virtual Personal Exclusive Line Networks). Cell Relay Service and Teleway Sirius, an Internet service provider. Its sales are more than 110 billion yen.

IDC is involved in optic fibre cable-laying projects: IDC Home Dial, a credit cardbased automatic dialling service from over-seas to Japan; it started Internet Internation-al Gateway services; established IDO Solu-tions, a 100 per cent-owned subsidiary; and in March 1998 expanded its services to 208 locations. Its turnover is more than 70 billion yen. IDO has been involved in cellular phone and digital cellular phone services. Since March 1997 it has been collaborating with DDI in the introduction of CDMA digital protocol cellular phone services. GSM, the traditional digital protocol technology, has not been readily available in Japan, so the spread of

CDMA will need to be assessed. IDO is a good excomplex Japanese telecommunicaing many obsta-

companies. The extent of co-operation among rival Japanese communication net-works is remarkable. In the PHS market, for example, most regions have three companies competing to provide improved servi-ces. Toyota, through its TWJ arm, is supporting the construction of a nationwide network by investing capital in Astel Tokyo and Astel Chubu. TWJ lavests in Astel companies throughout Japan. The PHS has been one of the most popular mobile phones here. NTT, with its Personal Communications Network, is its main rival, along with DDI Pocket Telephone.

It is difficult to see where the room exists for American or European companies. The problem for Japanese companies is that at home and abroad all their efforts are invested in Japanese-related activities. NTT, KDD and even Toyota are fulfilling the needs of Japanese companies and consumers for their telecommunications and multimedia services. The test will be whether they can successfully challenge Western companies and become household names as they did with cameras, photocopiers and the like.

The Finns and the Italians have gone mad for mobiles, says Tony Dawe

wo of the most dispa-Europe are rivalling each other in the race to top the league of mobile

The Finns, famous for being fair-skinned and tacitum, and the olive-skinned and gregarious Italians could become the most permanently switchedon peoples within a couple of years, according to research by Salomon merchant bank. It predicts that the two countries will be the first to have more mobile phones than people but for very different reasons.

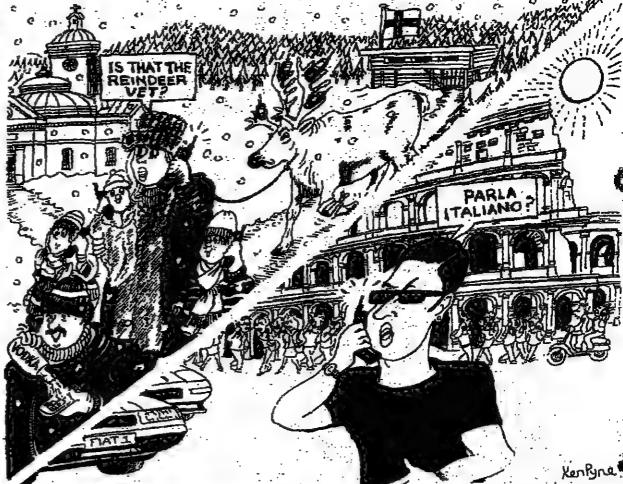
The Finns have taken to mobile phones because the population is spread across the country. They have also been offered some of the lowest tariffs in the world," says John Jensen, Salomon's wireless analyst. The Italians have been attracted to them because of excellent prepayment

The popularity of mobiles in Finland has undoubtedly prospered because Nokia, which has just overtaken Motorola as the world's leading manufacturer of mobiles, is a Finnish company. It generates, on its own, a third of Finland's annual economic growth; its shares account for half the trading on the Helsinki stock exchange and Jorma Ollila, Nokia's president, was recently voted the second most pow-erful person in the country in a nationwide poll.

The company has not, however, swamped the country with cheap "terminals", as it calls the phones. Finns pay \$100 and more for a phone but the cost of calls is hardly any more expensive than using a fixed line. Finland currently tops the mobile phone "pene-tration league", with 56 ports-bles for every 100 people, according to recent statistics from the ECM World Cellular

The forecasts that the number of phones will outstrip the number of people is based on their popularity among chil-dren, with nearly all 16 to 24-year-olds possessing a mobile. About one in three schoolchildren possesses one. They are marketed aggressively at children, with parents happy to buy Citiphones, which work only within Helsinki's boundaries and cut off after a fixed amount, normally 100 markka (£12), has been spent on calls. Mobile phones were top of

the pre-teens' Christmas gift



### Talking their way into the record books

lists and dominated newspaper and television advertis-

me for the festive period. In a country famous for its love of vodka, the future of the mobile phone could also be guaranteed by the discovery of one that runs on alcohol. Re-searchers at Manhattan Scientific in the United States have developed a phone with a fuel cell that works by a chemical

provides enough power for

In Italy the popularity of mowith the launch of pre-paid services by Telecom Italia Mobile, Omnitel and their recent-ly licensed rival, Wind, an Ital-ian, French and German consortium. Customers buy their handsets at market rather

The pre-paid services were promoted very cleverly and the prices pitched just right to catch on, says Mr Jensen. The schemes also benefited from the traditionally high tariffs charged for calls from

fixed lines. The services have helped the market to grow by 80 per-cenf in the past year to total 18 mil-

The boom may be slowed by an increase in the cost of calling cellular phones from fixed lines earlier this month. The infication" of tariffs ordered by Italy's telecoms watchdog, which seems to benefit only those already enjoying off-

gether with the Finns, will continue to snap up mobile phones. He says: "The explosion in the use of the Internet has resulted partly from more and more people getting e-mail addresses and those without them feeling left out. The same will happen with mobile phones. When people with out one are regularly asked for their mobile number, they will soon acquire one. The cost of not being a cellular subscriber is going up, but the cost of be-

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### Capital ideas for inventors.

would be no large telecommunications companies. All global multinationals start out as small companies with a good idea; and even when they become large, they still rely on smaller and medium-size enterprises for cutting-edge

ideas, Ruth Taplin writes. The UK has no shortage of inventors, but it has had a shortage of visionary venture capital companies and late-pay legislation. The latter has been addressed by legislation concerning a Bester Payment Practice Code pushed through by Barbara Roche, then Small Firms Minister, which demands that large firms pay in-terest at 8 per cent above base rate on overdue debts to small

suppliers.

The other problem for hightech companies is obtaining venture capital. This is es-pecially difficult after the second or third phase of the project, when care capital is needed for product update, a new sales effort and improved

Alex Henderson, managing director of Nairn Douglas. Investors and past president of the Federation of wish to Electronics Indussee a try (FEI), notes signs of change for clear high-tech compa-nies seeking ven-ture capital. The business FEI has run three successful investplan ment forums at which innovators

to potential investors. Individual and corporate investors are careful to assess whether market research has been done to prove that there is demand for a new technology and that the product or ser-vice constitutes a genuine breakthrough. Other pitfalls for innovators include inadequate business plans. Invesnors need to have a clear, con-vincing business plan before they are willing to commit

Understanding who the investor is, whether individual or corporate, is essential for the high-tech company. Many investors have particular prei-erence or even geographical limits. Impovators need to familiarise themselves with the investors and their terms for. offering money as well.

The different, but successful, approaches to corporate venturing show that both larger institutional as well as

ithout small and medium-size enterprises, or SMEs, there

Venture capitalists are on the "Zeus is the pick of the early-stage technology companies in stage lookout for bright ideas

> smaller, more individual companies can be effective in providing venture capital to the

Celtic House Investment Corporation (CHIC) was founded by Terry Matthews, a Welsh-born entrepreneur who is the founder and chairman of Newbridge Network Corporation, a Canadian telecommunications company. Since its formation in 1987. Newbridge has increased its annual turnover to more than

Mr Matthews set up CHIC in 1994 as his own private com-pany to invest in high-growth start-up enterprises in the IT-telecom sector, with an emphasis on identifying technologies and businesses that are po-tentially complementary to Newbridge or that will give Newbridge exposure to a di-versified range of emerging

This institutional approach has led to CHIC investing in almost 40 start-up companies. In some cases Newbridge has been a co-investor from the outset, such as with the Cambridge-based encryption company, nCipher. in the Welsh

convergence software company Ubiquity it has becan present their Ubiquity it has be-cases for financial assistance come an investor at a later date. Over the past year or so investments by CHIC/Newbridge in just four of such start-ups have resulted in gains of nearly \$500 million to the two companies.

> A prosech shows that pas-sion or an emotional investment in the company that the venture capital company is supporting can be just as im-portant as providing mone-Richard Davidson, who

more individual ap-

works in a specialist tech-nology team based in the City of London that assists early stage companies with their financing, agrees. He says:
"We try to find investors who not only understand the technology but are passionate about it.

This means number of highly skilled ven-ture firms in Europe, but very often it can also mean having

to take the companies across the water to investors in Sili-

ty with these types of venture is more widespread. In some cases, we will make the investment ourselves."

con Valley, where the familiari-

One such example is Zeus Technology, a Cambridge-based webserver tools busi-

the UK, and such was our passion for its business that we decided to get involved individually. I would say that it is passion, coupled with a healthy cynicism, that should

guide the investor. But, in the final analysis, whether you are seeking capital for an SME IT hightech venture, or providing capi-tal and passion, proceed with



### Notions and potions sure to win hearts

by some women and manymen—that wal-entines Day is senti-mental tosh and should be ignored doesn't really wash. The irony is that it is the romantic shish factor that provides a wel-

stush factor that provides a welcome relief from the curroudgeonly attitudes we often encure in daily life.
The how do you plan to celebrate? By Word of Mouth
(0181-871 9566), the London
caterer, suggests a sensious
meal for two at home with fred
vodka and oysters; marinated
salmon and heart shaped passion-fruit panna cotta. First
set the state, "Tie your napkins with pale pink organza
and cover the table in crushed
velvet, do which you can scarter rosebids, and jasmine,"
says a spokesiman for By Word
of Mouth; "Put a vase of roseof Mouth, Put a vase of rosewater and some floating candles in the centre and arrange night-lights in frosted glass around the room for a warm

If you want garlic bread on . your Valentine's Day menu, you can now do so without fear of offending. Tesco has recad that has a new strain of glidic baked inside — it looks and tastes like normal garlic but without the lingering aroma. The post-prandial kiss will be all the better for it. A

Katherine Bergen offers gift ideas for everyone from the most romantic to the most forgetful

0800-716-108) has invented a

whole new perfume for Valen-

tine's Day - Love Potion No 9. The Jadies' eau de toilette is

pink and has green top notes, rich floral middle notes and

base notes of precious wood

and amber. The men's version

is a citrus, spice and wood com-

bination and comes in an in-triguing black bottle. Prices

start at £15.

Lavenders Blue (01483

211339), the mail-order compa-

ny, has a Valentine selection.

A silver heart box is £4.50, a



Tea for two: sip Lady Grey from a special Twinings set

Twinings has new teasets that feature heart-shaped plates and saucers covered in rosebuds and hearts. The £50 set comprises a teapot, two cups and saucers, a cake plate and a box of Twinings Lady Grey tea (Twinings mail order 0171-353 3511).

When it comes to sentimen-tal tosh, chocolates are the tastiest kind. Thorntons sells a large diet-busting heartshaped box in romantic red for

Penhaligon's (Freephone

heart soap dish that includes a hand-made soap is £8.50, a mother-of-pearl heart is £4.50 and a terracotta heart dish filled with lavender or rose pot-pourri £12.50.

A company called 800 Ham-pers (07071 280800; website: ww.800Hampers.com) offers a huge range. The Standard Romantic costs £24.99, while the Deluxe Romantic is £69.99. They include Glencoe smoked salmon, champagne and choc-

If your loved one has been overdoing it, present him or her with a hand-made heart footstool. It is uphoistered in gold damask with matching tassels, and has beech legs. It costs £99.95 from House of Bath (0870 60 750 21).

The same company sells a heart curio table to house all



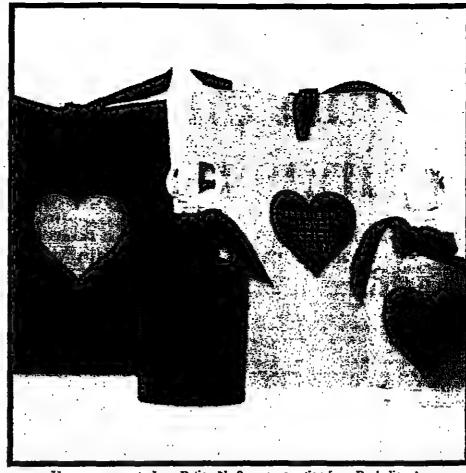
Thorntons' boxed choes

Care For The Wild International (01293-871 596), the wild-

life charity, suggests adopting an orphaned animal as a longlasting and meaningful gift.
Having chosen an animal—
elephant, rhino, chimp, orangutan, badger or tiger—the foster parent then receives an adoption certificate, a colour photograph of the orphan, a T-shirt, a factsheet, a video and a six-monthly update. Prices range from £14.95 to £49.95. For another unconventional

gesture, buy a property in Val-entine Road, London E9. The estate agent Sovereign Park (0181-985 5800) has two properties there; a lower ground-floor garden flat for £69,995 and a three-bedroom maisonette with a roof terrace for £139,995.

Finally, if you are prone to forgetting dates such as Valentin's Day altogether, The Gift Delivery Company (01483 440092) has a free anniversary reminder service that goes with the gift delivery service, and is designed to ensure that busy people do not miss important anniversaries or special occasions. Customers register all the important dates by post, fax or over the Internet. Then, two weeks before the event, they are contacted and given a reminder and a list of goodies from which to choose.

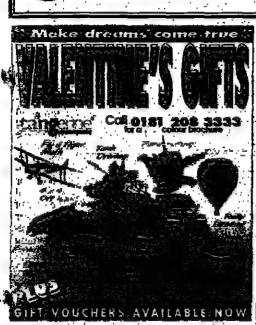


Uncommon scents: Love Potion No 9, a new creation from Penhaligon's



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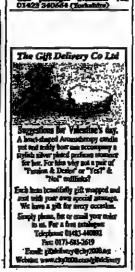
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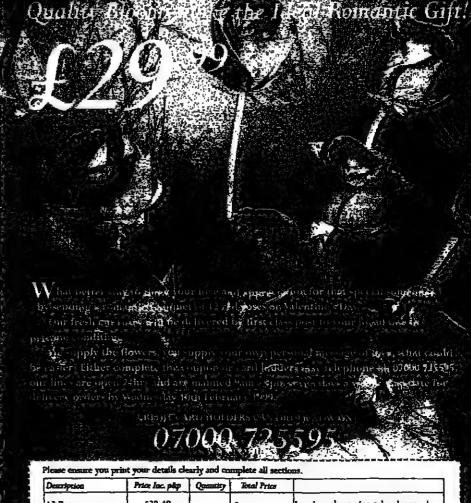




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# Is it hot stuff or just another listings mag?

Has Emap Metro's new title got what it takes to succeed in a tough market? Tina Gaudoin reports

ust because something is not a new idea doesn't mean it's a bad one. Emap Metro's newest publication, heat, claims to be the "ultimate weekly entertainment fix". However, if you're an entertainment junkie or you have spent time in America, you will quickly spot the similarities between heat and the hugely successful American publication Entertain-ment Weekly (although EW doesn't contain TV listings).

The comparison does not please Mark Williamson, the publisher of heat, who holly denies any suggestion of a link, saying: This has been an idea in David Hepworth's mind for at least five years." Granted, Hepworth, the editoorial director whose triumphs include Smash Hits. Just Seventeen, Q and More!, is a publishing legend (at least in the magazine industry) and anything with his stamp stands more than an odds-on chance of succeeding. But, presented with the respective magazines, even my dog could sniff out the similarities.

According to Williamson: "We've spent lots of money and time designing heat. It has been a long time since Entertainment Weekly won any design awards." Ouch! Williamson and the heat team should be flattered, not defensive. EW broke the mould in the US and went on to make millions. There's no reason why heat shouldn't do the same. But

perhaps the heat team is ask-ing itself the same question as everyone else about the launch of something dedicated to those who are, in Williamson's words, "mad for entertainment". Are there enough entertainment junkies out there to merit a weekly magazine? And, what's more, can the magazine do what EW does so well — deliver stories exclusively and first?

To say that Mark Frith, the editor of heat, is "builish" about his magazine's chances would be an understatement. As a former magazine editor myself, it's hard not to overlook the carefully prepared pre-launch media soundbite (and why shouldn't he be prepared - this is a huge launch

with a £4.5 million budget).

When I ask how heat will compete with the highly influential, huge-circulation weekend supplements, Frith's reply is textbook: "We are not in competition with anyone else. We are a one-stop shop for enter-tainment fans. We won't always be first, but we will always be the best."

But the increasing "glossi-ness" of the Saturday and Sunday newspaper magazines, plus the advent of entertainment-based listing guides. such as The Times's metro, the Evening Standard's Hot Tickets and The Guardian's The Guide, mean that the entertainment beat is more heavily populated than ever.

weekly entertainment

magazine has the potential to break stories. Frith, the former editor of Sky Magazine, has surrounded himself with a crack team. Charles Gant, formerly of The Face, is one of Britain's best magazine film editors, and the news editor, Matt Smith, formerly at NME, should have great access to entertainment news stories. But do the British resemble the Americans in their "need" to consume infotainment on a vast scale? Do we really need to know the background to Leonardo Di Caprio's problems on the set of The Beach, for example? After all, most of us either read about it in the "red tops" or saw it on News at Ten.

f heat is to succeed it will need to do a lot better than tepid stories in the preview issue about why Cameron Diaz is the "most beautiful woman in the world"; an "exclusive" on Ewan McGregor and Anna Friel in Rogus Trader, which is unaccompanied by a quote from either actor; a Q&A session with Christian Slater which asks "where did you go when you went out?"; or a sexist article on The Corrs, which wastes two paragraphs on Andrea Corr's backless outfit.

Not that there's anything wrong with any of these top-ics. I'm rather envious of Andrea Corr's figure myself. But I could get this stuff from any number of existing magazines.



High hopes: hears launch is costing £4.5 million

If hear's readership is to remain loyal, it needs to be offered something more, or at least different. But (as I know to my cost) it's easy to knock a launch. And heat is full of MTV-style pace and energy. I like its well-researched readbite pages - even though my favourite readbite (that Salman Rushdie and U2 have pooled talents to come up with a shanty) was in The Guardi-

an last week. The writing is humorous and sharp, although for a magazine that professes to be Brit-centric, there's a lot of American material.

To be fair, the preview issue is not the same product that will hit the newsstands next week. The launch issue promises, among other things, Johnny and Kelly in a Big Breakfast interview and a report on the Golden Globes - both

should be good. If I were to find fault with heat, I would say that the design leaves me cold Boxy layouts, packed pag-es and heavy black type smacks of mid-Nineties lad mags. Is it me or is everyone a bit suspicious of a magazine that uses exclamation marks

in almost every headline? But then again, I know bet-ter than to doubt the power of a mega-magazine empire willTHE TIMES VERDICT

"The pace is hectic"

The pace is hectic'

It's bright, it's confident, there is certainly plenty of information in it and it feels and looks like a monthly read, so there is a strong sense of value for money, heat certainly looks different from other British entertainment magazines, overall, the influence of Q can be detected, but there is a very American feel to the front half, with lots of red and black type and coloured panels.

It is difficult to discern who the target reader is — is it the secretary on her way to work or the hip young kid on the stree? The tone is reflective, almost condescending, explaining who The Offspring are, for instance, when every music paper has done them recently, but the pace is hetcic the opening "news" section, with lots of stories and gossip, is frantic and would benefit from some stronger pointers to guide readers to specific areas.

The film reviews are entertaining and clearly laid out, but music, videos, books and games are too condensed to have any real authority and, oddly, there are no previews of upcoming tours or events, which adds to the feeling that there is nothing proactive going on.

At the back, the TV listings section offers little different from the myriad listings publications already on the market, although the comprehensive film previews are a good idea that should go down well with those too exhausted after reading the magazine to think about anything else.

'I find the idea enticing'

WE may already have more listings magazines than we need, but who doesn't have the urge to find something new and entertaining to read?

If heat can provide this, then the fact that it offers TV times as well should be considered a bonus. I find the idea of a newsy magazine rammed with film, music, books, celebrities, gossip and reviews far more enticing than the predictable fare of most women's magazines, and I am sure I am not alone, heat's throwaway lively feel makes it just the kind of thing I want to devour on the way home from work. The layout is pleasantly garish, and although the pages are almost too busy, they make good use of boxes, side-bars and strong pictures.

make good use of boxes, slue-pars and strong pictures.

The massive weakness, however, is the quality of the writing. Many of the features are shallow and imsophisticated in tone. If heat is to attract its target audience of 18 to 40-year-olds it must remember that these readers may have a couple of broadsheets and The Economist in their bag as well, heat is obviously not aiming to be highbrow, but it feels no more grown-up than Smash Hus.

BRIDGET HARRISON, assistant features edite

ing to put millions into focusgrouping, researching and promoting what we really, really want. When Red (a)so an Emap Metro product) launched over a year ago it blew Frank, the magazine that I was editing, out of the water in terms of launch budget and

advertising revenue alone.

Emap Metro has an uncontested history of understanding the mass market, but it

needs to have done its research exceptionally well to reach the 100,000 ABC figures it forecasts for the first year.

So, can it make in The prob. lem with launching a magazine in the UK is, as a New York editor friend so accurately observed: "You Brits hate anything new with words and

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pictures in it." That comment

alone makes it worthwhile

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### media times

Group Newspapers have not ended with the departure of its chief executive, David Montgomery - instead, they are iust beginning. Montgomery was, ultimately, condemned for not coming up with a coherent strategy for the future of the group that publishes everything from The Mirror and Sanday Mirror to the Sunday

People and Scottish Daily Record.

Now the chairman, Sir Victor

Blank, and other long-serving MGN executives, most of whom were there throughout the Montgomery era, have presumably got to come up with a new strategy, it cannot simply be the obvious one of selling themselves to the highest bid-der, or maximising shareholder va-lue, as they put it in the trade. The only clearly identified bidders, the regional newspaper groups Trinity and Regional Independent Media. would face a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation, which could last six months, with no guarantee of sucress. So Sir Victor and friends must

### Where does Mirror Group go now?

devise a plan for independent survival even if they think MGN is too small to compete in a world of international multimedia giants. And they will probably have to do it under fire — not just from poten-tial bidders, but also from the competition, who will try to exploit the instability with every weapon at their disposal. There has already been a skirmish this week in the Central Television area in the Mid-lands, with *The Mirror* cutting its cover price to 20p and *The Sun* 

instantly replying with a 15p offer.
Part of Montgomery's strategy was spot-on — the move to become less dependent on the difficult mass-market national newspaper market by buying into the regional press with the acquisition of Midland Independent Newspapers. The Newsletter in Belfast and the Derry Journal Group were useful

they-won't-they pa-vane over whether The Sporting Life should be relaunched as a general sports daily has been a fiasco and should be resolved as soon as possible. The weight of argument has always backed the

view that such a thing will be diffi-cult to pull off in the UK. The most obvious failure, chronicled mercilessly in the new book by Chris Horrie and Adam Nathan, Live TV: Tellybrais and Topless Darts, has been MGN's rather sad attempt to get into television. Its last chance to do anything significant was the aborted bid for Channel 5. The 20 per cent stake in Scottish Media Group has become a

valuable investment. It can never

be anything else because of monopoly problems in Scotland and legislation barring News International, the owner of The Times, and MGN from owning more than 20 per cent of mainstream broadcasters because of the size of their national newspaper circulations. Although the cable channel Live

became famous thanks to Kelvin MacKenzie and the News Bun-- the latter, apparently, has retired - it could never amount to much. There are hopes that Mir-

break even later this year but any notion that this is a way into the television market. other than at the margins, is misconceived. More local and regional newspapers, plus-magazines and stakes in commercial radio, might be

more appropriate targets.

The picture has been a little brighter for the core business, the originer for the core business, the national newspapers, with *The Mirror* increasing its circulation by nearly 14,000, or 0.6 per cent, to 2,338,049 in the six months to December, which goes against the trend. But the Sunday Mirror lost 12.6 per cent, or 287,510 copies, and the People down 9.4 per cent The People, down 9.4 per cent (177,844), was not far behind. Even in Scotland circulations are

looking "soft". Exclude sales in England and abroad, and the Daily Record looks as if it is finding it difficult to stay the right side of 600,000 sales in Scotland. Rivals are surprised by the paper's healthy overseas sales of more than 31,000, mostly in Spain. "The Record seems to have uncovered a horde of Scots in Spain, marconed after the annual summer migra-tion and unable to return home."

says a rival sniffily.

A year ago the Record sold 3,324 copies abroad before it began printing in Spain last July. The remarkable thing is not that Spanish sales have soured but that they seem to

be as high in December as at the height of summer. Such number games indicate just how tough it is out there in the circulation wars. Even if MGN is rescued by Trinity or RIM and the

deal gets through the MMC, the problems won't be all over. Neither group has any experience of running popular national newspapers. Trinity appears to think that this could be done mainly that this rould be done mainly from its current headquarters, in Chester. Even with the best will in the world, it is easy to foresee a future in which either group would become increasingly exasperated with the national news-

paper business, particularly if some of the best staff left.
How attractive it might seem, after a year or two, to get rid of such an appalling burden and wipe out a pile of debt at the same time. Then it could be a case of "step forward newspaper proprietor Kelvin MacKenzie", with his pockets stuffed with venture capital gold. His hands are full at the mo-

ment with Talk Radio, but Mac-kenzie is already talking about re-turning to newspapers one day. He, of course, would have to be the one handing out the "bollock-

- he has had quite enough

# The other Monty

Not everybody hated the Mirror chief, says Richard Holledge

very heaven it was to be a journalist with the Daily Mirror in the early Nineties. Executives, staff and cronies spent happy hours emptying their office wine cabinets and . . enjoyed the congenial confines of Vagabonds, a club next to

And as journalists supped the circulation slipped. Scores of casual workers did the work of some of the staff.

Well, someone had to in order to preserve so civilised an existence. It was fun. A sort of cheerful anarchy where expenses were fiddled merrily, chums given shifts and girlfriends paid handsomely for freelance work. One illustrator was paid 650,000 in a single year by the senior executive with whom she lived.

This was 12 months after Robert Maxwell had taken his inopportune paddle, in late 1991, and the fun was about to end. Enter a figure who could hardly have been in greater contrast to the corpulent crook - the slim, nervy, Presbyterian figure of David Montgomery. For him the drink, the profligacy, the extravagant manpower was almost as corrupt as Maxwell's raid on the pen-

sion fund. Furthermore, the culture of the place was at odds with the post-Eighties, go-getting aspirational quality so admired and exploited by Montgomery when he edited the now defunct Today newspaper. For him the Mirror Group

Fleet Street's last hurrah. He scrapped the remaining wine cabinets, closed the executiveonly cantren and opened the senior staff lift to the workers.

Then he moved with such ferocity that people were left feeling that Maxwell hadn't been such a bad old villain after all. Editors were propelled to the door with unnatural haste: exit the Daily Mirror's Richard Stott, bye bye Bill Hagerty of The People, farewell to such luminaries as Alastair Campbell, Anne Rob inson and Paul Foot. One hundred casuals were sacked, and some staff found themselves in the invidious position of having to do some work.

Actually, rather a lot of it. As the size of the staff decreased the number of pages rose. There were new sections, pullouts and inserts.

From the point of view of the City, the cost-cutting was clearly popular. From the journalistic point of view, bigger papers should have meant better. Simultaneous attempts to appeal to younger, professional people were probably correct. Swindon Woman - smart, relatively sophisticated and aspirational - replaced Andy

Capp as the role model. It might have worked if the editors had been up to it it took Monty about 30 seconds to realise that his appointment of the amiable David Banks was a mistake, and as Banks spent more and more time at



18 88 8 David Montgomery left many enemies in his wake, but journalists who knew him as Editor of Today remember his strong leadership and capacity for hard work

lunch with his admiring hangers on — rather redolent of the good old, bad old days - he probably realised that he was

in the wrong job as well. The swiftness of the sackings and the undoubted fact that the new Mirror wasn't much better than the old one earned Montgomery a shower opprobrium from within the trade, led by Roy Greens-lade of The Guardian, who had been a disappointing Editor of the Daily Mirror during the later Maxwell years. Everybody hated Monty. Or did

Many of the people who

worked with him on Today became admirers. Women profited from his patronage lessa Hilton went on to edit a female contemporary put it: the Sunday Mirror, and depu-"He is actually extremely shy." tise at The Express; Amanda Platell was latterly executive editor of The Express on Sun-

day, Juliet Ashworth is editorin-chief of Australian Vogue; Jane Moore is a columnist on The Sun; and Sandra Parsons is features editor of this news-

A Christmas card was produced to celebrate the advance of Montgomery's women staff, with them all in late-Eighties power-suited red (a spoof which Monty enjoyed hugely). He is more comfortable with women than men because, as

There are many journalists who have fond memories of the man, impressed by his leadership at Today, where he worked harder than most, was absolutely focused and brought out the best in staff. It must be said though that supporters are in the minority.

Ian Hargreaves, who was the best of the flurry of Editors at The Independent during the Mirror/O'Reilly co-ownership, was outspoken in his con-

tempt. The staff of The Independent found Montgomery a useful focus for their frustration as the glory days of 400,000 circulation faded, costs rose and closure seemed imminent. Montgomery, with O'Reilly's backing, did little to

staff and cutting again.
There was also a distinct manpower problem on the tabloids. In one astonishing spell on the Sunday Mirror there months. Or was it five?

win their sympathy, cutting

were four editors in as many By the beginning of 1998. there was increasing boardroom irritation with the chief

executive. Some directors were Express) to become a senior disturbed that the Mirror Group had a bad public image, others felt that Montgomery was somehow not the corporate man they wanted him to be.

But then he was never likely to be. He is a maverick, impatient with people who don't share his convictions, refuetant to be the team player. Right from his arrival in Fleet Street in the Seventies, he drove determinedly onward. He was impervious to the fury

of his peers when he was

plucked from obscurity by

Nick Lloyd (later Editor of The

Jackson stays put

'I will

accept a

summons

to the

BBC'

executive on The People and then to replace him as Editor of the News of the World. He was equally impervious to the hatred - it's not too strong a word - he inspired when he

finally reached the top. People who remember him as the callow, hungry young man of his trainee days remember him for three things: ambition, ambition, ambition.

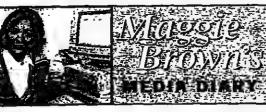
 The author was night editor of Today in 1988-89, features editor of the Daily Mirror, 1992-95, and night editor of The Independent, 1996.

### News at 5, 6 or 7?

IN A hugely senmove, Channel 5 wants to pitch Kirsty Young into the carly news battle. It is seeking permission to move its much fêted but

virtually unwatched Channel 5 News from 7pm to either 6pm, where Young would cheekily challenge the re-launched BBC Six O'Clock News, or even 5.40pm, if the Independent Television Commission regulator agrees. It would then offer audiences a replacement for ITN's popular early evening news, which ends on March 8, to make way for Trevor McDonald's new 6.30pm Evening News . . all the result of the controversial decision to kill off News at Ten.

Channel 5's news was first broadcast successfully at 8.30pm, but its shift last year to 7pm - alongside Channel 4 News — has been a disaster, with nightly audiences dwindling to 300,000. BBCI must be watching nervously: the gover-nors see it as essential to get the Six O'Clock News right. Kirsty Young was heavily wooed for the programme last year, but the BBC finally plumped for the personable but unknown face of Huw Edwards to carry the show ... and so many expectations and careers.



■ I HEAR that The Guardian's fearless TV fraud-busters, Michael Sean Gillard and Laurie Flynn, having brought a £2 million fine down on Carlton over the fake documentary The Connection, are now investigating two Channel 4 documentaries. This may explain why the easy relationship that developed last year between The Guardian and Channel 4 seems to be cooling a bit. I am also told that Clive Jones, the managing director of Carlton (and Fern Britton's estranged husband) received consoling phone calls from the top of the BBC along the lines of "there but for the grace of God . . . ".

■ NEITHER David Elstein nor Dawn Airey, the top two Channel 5 executives, was available to debate on the Today programme yesterday with Lady Howe of Aberavon over the Broadcasting Standards Commission's attack on C5's late-

night sex programming.
The clear hope is that the BSC's rebuke - Lady Howe's last stand as chairman before

will hasten the death of the watchdog organi-sation, which this week raised eyebrows again by describing a scene in The Bill in which a male

rape victim was interviewed as "too emotional". But the Independent Television Commission - a regulator with teeth is also due to censure Channel 5 next week over specific programmes on the sex trade from Sex & Shopping, because of their portrayal of prostitution "in a moral-free zone". This apparently breaks the duty on broadcasters to be impartial.

Carlton Television is also in hot water over its 9pm drama series The Vice. Last week's opening shots of a young boy in bondage/sexual torture gear, screened just after 9pm and repeated this week in a résumé, has shocked even hardened drama executives (one of them kindly sent the Diary a

The programme seemed to ignore all previous ITC advice about making gradual shifts after 9pm rather than plunging down a "waterfall".

LAST week's Diary revelation that eight leading economists had been paid between £5,000 and £10,000 by the BBC



Channel 5's sexy programmes have landed it in hot water

to write chapters in the Public Purposes in Broadcasting book, basically supporting the licence fee, was not the whole truth - in some cases payment was at least £15,000. Throw in the costs of publishing and promotion and the BBC must have spent more than £100,000 on this ruse to defuse criticism sorry, aid contributions to the

THREE weeks ago I pointed



so accountable to its audiences had failed to transmit a single Points of View since last August, despite viewers continuing faithfully to send in their letters of complaint. A week later I was told that it was returning, in a different form, after Now BBCI has been ordered to rush the programme back

next month, format intact -

which leaves producers scrab-

bling to see if Carol Vorderman

can make it. A pleasing victory.

out that the BBC, supposedly

#### Director-General of the BBC, has totally ruled himself out of the running for the job. It was always unlikely that Jackson, a former Controller of BBC2 and head of BBC. Broadcast, would apply directly for the Director-General's job only 18 months after taking control of Channel 4. But, in the television industry, it was thought that it might

ichael Jackson, the chief executive

of Channel 4 and one of the leading

L potential candidates to be the next

be a different matter if Jackson received a summons from Sir Christopher Bland, the BBC Chairman. In an interview with Sky News's Media Monthly programme. which will be shown on Sunday. the Channel 4 chief executive un-

ambiguously rules himself out for

the BBC position. "I think I have made it perfectly dear, both in public and internally within the channel, that I am committed to staying at Channel 4," says Jackson, who has already managed to snatch Test cricket from the BBC since his move to

Channel 4. Asked if he would accept a summons to the BBC, even if he did not actually apply for the job, Jackson simply replied: "I think I've made it perfectly clear that I want to stay at Channel 4 and I won't be accepting a summons to the BBC."

In the interview on Sky News, Jackson also criticises the Broadcasting Standards Com-mission (BSC), which attacked Channel 5 this week for showing explicit sexual content. Two years ago the BSC demanded that Channel 4 broadcast an apology for transmitting Ken Loach's film Ladybird, Ladybird, even though it was quite acceptable to the Independent Television Commission. The Channel 4 chief executive believes that it is now time to have a single regulator of broadcasting content so that

programme-makers know where they stand. The fact that Jackson is ruling himself out must shorten the odds on Greg Dyke, the former chief executive of London Weekend Television and chairman of Pearson Television, who also nappens to be a close friend of Sir Christopher. The other main external candidates for the

top job in British broadcasting are David Elstein, the chief executive of Channel 5, who is mistrusted at the BBC because of his opposition to the licence fee, and Richard Eyre, the chief executive of ITV. who does not have any programme making experience.

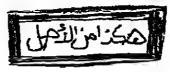
Meanwhile, Sky News is drawing up plans to launch its own News at Ten — although the exact name has not been decided yet to coincide with the demise of the ITV news programme.
The 24-hour Sky News, part of

BSkyB, an associate company of News International which owns The Times, is planning to create a flagship news bulletin at 10pm to try to take

advantage of the news gap. The last News at Ten bulletin will be broadcast on March 5. After that the main-ITV news programmes will be at 6.30pm and 11pm.

The man planning the new programme, which could attract additional resources, is Nick Pollard, the head of Sky News. He is a former Editor and executive producer of it first went to air on February 5, 1989.

RAYMOND SNODDY



# Mellor's mediafest

The former MP is happy to be away from politics, says Raymond Snoddy

ing the Thames on a Thursday morning and you may have to wait. The former Cabinet minister is dictating his hand-written copy for his weekly column on football for London's Evening

"Do you think I should learn to type?" asks the former National Heritage Secretary. Six years after his political downfall, Mellor finds that there are not enough hours in the day to meet all his media obligations, not to mention consultancies for more than a dozen companies.

Apart from filling a page of the Standard with trenchant thoughts on everything from TV rights, his print outlets include a column for the Sundav People - ironically the paper that

exposed his relationship with the actress Antonia de Sanchez - and columns for Gramophone and Classic

F.M Magazine.

His broadcasting interests are even more extensive. In addition to regular contributions to CD Review on Radio 3, the former Conservative MP for Putney presents 12 programmes a year in the Vintage Years series, in which he talks to a contemporary musician.

Then there is Across the Threshold, the Classic FM series that introduces listeners to a wider range of classical music, and Sbr-O-Six, his two-hour Saturday football phone-In on Radio 5 Live, which celebrates its sixth anniversary this month.

Charlie Whelan, the former famous mobile phone earlier this

ry to get into David Mellor's early 19th-century
Docklands house overlooking the Theorems of t Street's Alastair Campbell, also called Mellor on Six-O-Six to celebrate when his team, Burnley, miraculously scored seven recently.

> "I cannot tell you how pleasurable it is to drink from so many fountains," says Mellor, a Chelsea supporter, "How many people have the chance to be in the Cabinet and host a football chat show? I'm not saying that this is a career anyone else would want but I still get a kick out of it - and occasionally get a kick from it."

As soon as his ministerial career came to an end the

telephone started ringing. The second call offered a six-week trial in the football radio hot-seat vacated by Danny Baker, who had gone off to "better himself in the world of tele-

vision". Some friends suggested, rather sniffily, that talking about football was not the sort of thing Mellor should do. "I took the view that there was nothing demeaning about talking about football to an audience in the same way I would in a bar after a game," says Mellor. What would have been demeaning, he believes, is if he had become a political lobbyist, "tugging at ministers' arms in the lobby".

At first, Mellor says, radio was petrifying, much worse than appearing at the dispatch box in the Commons. Terry Wogan suggested that there was no point in try-ing to prepare - he would be able to do it or he wouldn't, "But I've never been afraid of the microphone and I've always thought that one of the secrets is to talk in a relaxed



Newspapers and radio offered an outlet for the energies of David Mellor after his fall from grace

way to people as if the microphone

was not there," says Mellor. Apart from obvious topics such as the performances of individual teams and officials, the programme has dealt with everything from the cost of going to football to how fans are treated abroad.

"How Manchester United fans were treated in Istanbul by Turkish police was first exposed on our programme," says Mellor, who gets a total of 750,000 people listening to some part of his programme.

His interest in soccer led Tony Banks, the Sports Minister and fellow Chelsea fan, to ask him to chair the Task Force into football. It has produced reports on racism in football, on access for the disabled and most recently on trying to encourage football's "grass roots". There have been rows too. Gordon Taylor, of the Professional Footballers' Association, has accused Mellor of using the office "as an extension of his populist rabble-rousing political career". Mellor has accused Tay-lor of being one of the highest-paid trade union officials - presiding over idle and overpaid members.

He also feels strongly about the Office of Fair Trading case, now before the Restrictive Practices Court, which accuses the Premier League of behaving like a cartel in its TV rights deals with BSkyB an associate company of News In-ternational, which owns The Times and the BBC. Melior, who will give evidence for the Premier League, will tell the court that 38 per cent of Leicester City's income £6.5 million comes from the TV

Who is going to pay £6.5 million

to show Leicester games?" he asks. Mellor, 49, is grateful to the media for taking him in when he was "forced to find other outlets for my energies", and says he has no bitterness about what happened to him, apart from one thing - he is still angry that The Sun published what he claims to be a "total inven-

tion" - that he conducted his rela-

tionship with de Sanchez in a Chel-

sea strip. Although he still describes himself as a Tory, it is far from clear whether he will stand for Parlia-ment again. Thaven't ruled out polities but I couldn't go back as some foaming-at-the-mouth partisan." says Mellor. "I would have to go back feeling that they wanted mature people with mature opinions who believed in putting their arms around people a bit."

# The undertow Th

THE PR agency Financial Dynamics has become a victim of dale, commissioning editor at
this week's bust-up at Mirror
Channel 4 is to head factual pro-Group. PR Week looks at how the current flurry of mergers and takeover bids has created lu-crative, opportunities for financial PR agencies, but the fate of travel-specialist firm Brighte Financial Dynamics highlights PR, has bought the company Anadel the importance

of being on the winning side. TTV HAS secured a 43.3 per cent share of

peak viewing in

the first three year, Broadcast reports. This is well above last year's 37.9 per cent and the 39 per cent target for the year set by Richard Eyre, the chief executive. Eyre told adver-tisers and agencies that he was confident that the move of News at Ten would make the schedule even more competitive.

■ THE cider brand Scrumpy Jack is investing £5 million in sponsoring this year's cricket World Cup and the English Test team, Marketing reports. It. switched to cricket from sporisoring rugby because of what Paul Butler, the marketing manager, calls "the synergy with one of England's most treasured pastimes and Scrumpy Jack, a clas-sic English product. The deal means cider will become the Test team's official alcoholic drink

M CHANGING FACES, who's going where: Jane Drabble steps down as di-

rector of education at BBC Broad-

respondent, is to become chief political correspondent for BBC
News 24, replacing Huw Edwards, who goes to BBC!'s Six
O'Clock News (Press Gazette).
Jane Bevan, head of PR at the
Natural History Museum, will
set up her own agency. Debbie
From managing director of the Flynn, managing director of the travel-specialist firm Brighter from

> Group Week). Tom

Warren will become joint managing directors Fletcher Bozell in

place of Mark Lund, who re-mains chief executive (Cam-

Vijay Solanki, innovations manager for Bisto Foods, is to be head of marketing at Capital FM (Marketing). Isobel Blackie, of Body Shop, is to be head of marketing for Carphone Warehouse, replacing Ruth Greenwood, who moves to Redwood Publishing (Marketing Week).

MOVING HOUSE, who's pitching for what:

Ben and lerry's ice-cream seeks agency to handle £500,000 UK launch. ParcelForce World-wide's £4 million account goes to Ammirati Puris Limas (Market-ing). Del Monte is reviewing its media account to prepare for big

marketing push (Media Week). Yorkshire Building Society hires Ludgate public affairs to help campaign against denautual-isation (PR Week).

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# The unique power of a picture

The 1998 Picture Editors' Awards show that a whole story can be told in a moment

stand what the fuss over the Stephen Lawrence murder inquiry was all about. It was taken by the Reuters photographer Paul Hackett last: year is the chief suspects emerged from the inquiry. As they reacted to the anger of the rowd, Hackett's photograph demonstrated what sort of men they were.

Were they innocent or guilty? Seeing this sperb photograph, showing the hatred and defiance on their faces, the spoiling for a fight and the raised fists, most vill know what their verdict would be. It was a photograph that confirmed or chaiged perceptions and which was deservely judged news picture of the year in the 1998 Picture Editors' Awards sponsoed by Kodak and Fujifilm.

Journalism is a hard game demanding quck and ruthless editorial deci-

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ELECULIE SELE

REGIONAL SALE

MANAGER

INFIELD.

lines of 8pm or 9pm.

Digital adds speed in other ways. Last

tures from the war zone in Sierra Leone and sent them back to London almost instantly by using his laptop and a satellite telephone. Photographers who once had to carry scanners and developing

tanks now routinely transmit pic tures back to the office from their cars - all they need to do is to put.

The other main theme was the slump in the number of entries for royal photo-grapher of the year, mainly because of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales

tudy the main picture to the sions, especially during a World Cup. The irony of the award to Hackett's picture is that it made most front pages for the first edition, only to be swept aside for the "shame" of David Beckham after he committed his foul against Argenti-

na's Diego Simeone and was sent off.
The annual awards evening allows newspaper picture editors a rare opportunity to swap gossip. There were two main themes over the drinks at Guildhall in the City of London. One was digital photography which is now arriving almost universally as was evident in the 6,000 entries from 600 photographers.

We are seeing the end of film as we

have known it, especially with the arriv-al of the second generation of digital cameras," says *The Mirror's* picture editor Ron Morgans, an early pioneer as the first picture editor of Today.

Only recently, picture editors did not get photographs of football matches un-til at least half-time. Now, using digital cameras, David Viggers, the Reuters picture editor, starts transmitting II minutes after kick-off, a crucial saving of time for editors with first edition dead-

week Sam Kiley, Africa correspondent of The Times, took his own pic-

the disk into their laptops, connect to their mobile phones and the pictures are on their way.



Spoiling for a fight: the news picture of 1998 taken by Paul Hackett, a Reuters photographer, of the chief suspects in the Stephen Lawrence murder inquiry

William and Prince Harry, although The Sun's picture editor Geoff Webster notes that the Prince of Wales is now making more use of photo opportunities. One reason The Times's Marc Asp-

land won this year's award was that he captured an unusual moment of unor-

Brian MacArthur

ganised spontaneity. Aspland, a sports photographer, had never photographed a royal before and was not at all pleased when he was ordered to join the ratpack at Cheltenham races. He was at the back of the crowd, had to use a long lens and could only see Queen Elizabeth the

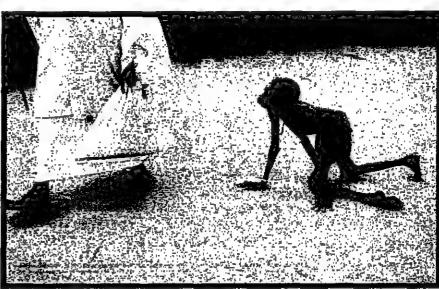
ever, that when a jockey fell off his horse he captured a rarely seen fit of giggles.

Black and white photography may
now be out of fashion but as Tom Stoddart's haunting picture from Sudan (using a Leica M6) demonstrates, it still
tells a dramatic story. Stoddart, a Feet

Street veteran, now works for the Independent Photographers' Group and lives by his wits. He sent himself to Sudan and worked with Médecins sans Fron-

The portfolio that won him the black and white award was used in The Guardian and on nine pages of Stern, ten of Le Figaro and five of US News and World Report.

Within eight hours of publication in The Guardian, there were 1,200 calls and £40,000 was raised. As Stoddart says, still images retain their power to move. Old-fashioned photo-journalism still works. It is an old lesson that new edi-



### For hacks and cats only

THE geat fragmentation of media over the pat two decades has left journalists. with many more column inches and broadest minutes to fill. There is no more real news, of course, which explains this week's assonishing coverage of the new Whisks ad.

Wedesday's hunchtime television the Savings and Long-Term Risk Project news. Iews at Ten. a full page in the (SLTRP) are banks and insurance compa-Evenin Standard, endless radio talk nies who are usually deadly rivals. shows resterday's nationals - you have to hancit to Whiskas's ad agency, M&C Saatch and the Mars PR machine.

In cae you missed it, the Whiskas commercia was spon as the first ad aimed at cats. Apparently, Mars brought in cat behavioural experts to determine what gets cats excited, and deided it would for bear targeting owners in favour of their pets. Marice Saatchi's new agency

then dvised a charming campaign: a teast ad early in the break asks cat owners to ensure that their pets are wathing. There follows a procession of fist, mouse and bird shapes, and shots of a bil of string — anything that ever got a cat acited. Apparently, cats will go bar-

Brigin's news editors certainly have. It is bizzre that journalists, notoriously re-luctant to help or even to fraternise with the avertising sales people working for their own organisations, are happy to conspire a cynical campaigns such as this. But when you're staring at white space, or twominutes of empty airtime, a story is a story-however manufactured.

THI Whiskas campaign is a fine example of R. advertising and hapless journalists woking together to promote a brand. But thre have been many recent occa-sions then advertising appeared powerless to inprove an image in the face of neg-

media watch

Hot on the heels of British beef, the millennium. The Express and mursing recruit-ment comes news of a £15 million campaign being planned to encourage more people to save regularly, take out life in-surance and join pension schemes. The surprise is that the advertisers funding

Headed by Sandy Leitch, the UK chairman of Zurich Financial Services, the SLTRP is working under the auspices of the Association of British Insurers. The

aim is less to direct consumers to any parnicular form of investment than to encourage financial literacy and awareness.

An admirable project, you might think, ithough bardly altruistic. But it could easily backfire. It has been reported this week that the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Socie-ty has been fined by the Personal Investment Authority and could be forced to pay £10 million in compensation to 50,000 customers who may have been mis-sold tenyear endowment savings schemes. All it takes is for those new financially literate and aware consumers to be confronted by coverage of one more pensions mis-selling case, and it will be £15 million a year down the drain for the scheme.

■ SAD news this week that Body Shop is to scale back manufacturing and axe jobs. The Roddicks are being pushed ever farther into the background by Patrick Gournay, the chief executive brought in from

Danone This is another case (after Marks & Spencer last week) of a retailer that might have benefited from more investment in advertising. For years, the Roddicks appeared to regard media ads as another form of pollution. They have only really dabbled with it in the past three years -

too little, too late. In the 1980s, Body Shop had a point of difference worth shouting about, but when rivals appeared and the likes of Boots cottoned on to "natural" ranges, it

needed to reassert its specialness to a new generation. It chose not to do so. Those consumers voted with

A big advertising campaign is the last thing that Body Shop needs now, though First, it has to address the wider marketing picture: its philosophy, its product range and the in-store experience of its customers.

REGULAR readers will be aware of the two-year dispute between Equity and the commercials production industry. This week Equity capitulated, lifting a ban on its members accepting voiceover work un-

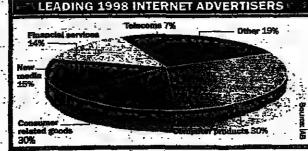
less under the terms of a 1991 agreement.
The actors' union had little choice. Only 15 per cent of about 15,000 voiceover engagements made between May 1997 and October 1998 were conducted under Equity's terms. Agencies pay well, and there was never going to be a shortage of non-Equity members willing to step into the breach. Eventually, many union mem-bers broke ranks. It is an entirely predictable conclusion to the dispute. Proof, in case you had any doubt, that in advertising, money talks.

• Stefano Hatfield is the Editor of Campaign

ALTHOUGH the Internet is perhaps perceived primarily as a surce of entertainment. information and communica-tion, reent research suggests that connercial use is about

Findings by Continental Re-search show that home Internet use doubled in the past 12 months, to five million users by the end of 1998. Another 2.3 million hone users and 1.9 million users in the workplace are expected a sign up within the

Although the reasons people go online sary, 43 per cent cited shopping as the main incentive. The Palue of total online will be worth £3.1 billion. net increased massively dur- at http://www.medi-sales for 998 is estimated at The creation of strong on- ing the first six months of 1998, (017)-439 7575).



c230 million. One of the latest line brands could prove to be reports from Fleicher Research predicts that by 2003 the right incentives for customers. In light of this, revenue search predicts that by 2003 ers. In light of this, revenue the online shopping market from advertising on the Interwill be worth £3.1 billion.

The right incentives for customers. In light of this, revenue from advertising on the Intermet increased massively dur-

according to the Internet Advertising Bureau, totalling £7.9 million compared with £8.1 million in the whole of

The relationship between consumer spending and advertising has always been impos-sible to pin down, but it is per-haps significant that computer products accounted for most advertising revenue during the first two quarters of 1998, as well as by far the biggest area of consumer spending.

■ MediaTel's online media information and analysis service is accessed via the Internet at http://www.mediatel.co.uk

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THE SUNDAY TIMES 15 THE SUNDAY PAPERS



COMEDY

THE





end usually comes not with a bang but a whimper. Yes, I know he was writing about something slightly more central to human existence than the Arts Council of England. But watching the power, the raison d'etre and even the staff drain away from that sad quango has indeed been akin to observing a much-abused mule whimper in its terminal throes.

What is Gerry Robinson playing at? The Arts Council's chairman is no fool or fall-guy, so one can only assume that he was appointed by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, to do precisely what he is doing: demolishing from the inside an organisation that may have been flawed but did at least have a long and admirable tradition of being politically impartial.

Consider the revolving-door ac-tion since the Granada chief arrived at the Arts Council nine months ago. First, the 22 council members were stood down, to be replaced by just ten decorative faces such as the dancer Deborah

We'll miss the Arts Council when it's gone Bull and pianist Joanna MacGregor. Result? A ruling body mostly unencumbered by awkward memo-

ries of what the Arts Council was

supposed to be, and to do. Next, the unpaid expert advisers were cut off from decision-making. The theatre panel, led by the redoubtable Thelma Holt, resigned en masse. She spoke of the Arts Council's new "contempt towards artists". Lady MacMillan, chief lu-minary of the dance panel, also

spoke out and walked out. The music world was more timid in its protests, but last week all that changed. Britain's orchestras launched a savage attack on the Arts Council for treating world-class outfits such as the LSO and CBSO like provincial bands, while at the same time handing the errant Royal Opera House a handsome increase in subsidy.

Then came the patter of depart-

ing feet - many of them. The mu-sic director, Kathryn McDowell, the only Arts Council apparatchik for decades to win friends in the orchestral world, has resigned. Graham Marchant, who was supposed to be masterminding the "devolution" of most Arts Council responsibilities to regional arts boards, departed abruptly less than six months after arriving.

And this week Phil Murphy, a

former political journalist who was given the preposterous title of "di-rector of communications" at the Arts Council, also quit. During his few months in office his main. achievement was ghost-writing Robinson's infamous inaugural lecture as Aris Council chairman, a speech that included a tribute to Chris Smith that was effusive even by the fawning standards of La-bour groupies, "Good grief," I wrote at the time. "Why don't they



RICHARD MORRISON

just merge the Arts Council with the Government's PR machine?" Well, guess what? Murphy's new job is to be head of communi-

cations for the Labour Party. The lad certainly knows how to play the game in Tonyland, doesn't he? Where does all this leave the

Arts Council? Bereft of experienced staff, shorn of power, it now faces a. challenge from Quest. a smister new peeping-tom quango that will "monitor standards and efficiency" in the arts and answer directly to Smith's Culture Department. It's hard not to conclude that the Arts Council has been deliberately reduced to this pointless existence by a Government that wants handson control of the arts and no focus of resistance to its wishes.

What does that matter, you may ask, as long as the artists them-selves retain their freedom of expression? After all, the rest is mere bureaucratic detail, isn't it?

Alas, I wish it were that innocuous. But the notion of politicians controlling which artists get subsi-dy is dangerous at the best of times, and particularly so when the politicians are as renowned for rewarding cronies as this lot are

Already there is a notable reluctance in the arts world to speak out in public against any government policy for lear of reprisal. Yes, it's pathetic, But it explains why the Arts Council is disappearing not with a bang but a whimper.

ne of music's most hu-mane figures died this week Robert Shaw was probably the greatest choral conductor of this century. His impecca-bly trained choirs — built up in a career that spanned six decades thrilled even that grumpy old per-fectionist Toscanini. Singers in Georgia and Texas thought noth-ing of driving hundreds of miles each week to attend his rehearsals. which frequently took on the burn-ing intensity of revivalist prayer

But he was much more than an inspiring musician. He was a cou-

rageous idealist, establishing choirs with no racial barries several decades before it was politically correct, or safe, to do so. And like Britten in Suffolk or, nore recently, Rattle in Birmingham and James MacMillan in Glasgow he was a superb missionary or mu-sic at the grass roots. He believed that top-notch performers, writers and artists had a civic duty to be-come role models, intellectual leaders and catalysts of the cultural life

in their communities. The most important thing in the arts is your own backyse." he once told me. "Unless artists work their way into the community fab-

their way into the community rabric they are not being fully used."
At a time when people in Ankara, Anchorage and Andove all
watch the same films, listen to the
same pop albums and flick listers
by through the same television sitcourse such idiocamentic percential. coms, such idiosyncratic parochialism may seem quaint and outlat-ed. But if the alternative is a band homogenisation of culture intene dreary global custard, give me

### Cabaret of the insane

he buzz inside a sold-out Sadier's Wells and the lengthy queue for returns outside were proof, if such were needed, that in the world of the theatre the German choreographer Pina Bausch is a goddess. It has been 17 years since her last visit to London and the faithful were determined to worship at the feet of the most influential dance-theatre artist in Europe

Viktor, the 1986 work she brings to London (with the help of BMW Group), is a showcase for Bausch the director, not Bausch the chorethree and a half hours there are scant minutes of dance. Yet these moments are thrillingly vibrant. Bausch animates her large ensemble in waves of witty and thrusting movements that embody perfectly the dream-like images she seeks to portray. Movement is the exclamation point, the glorious adjective

that pulls her ideas into tight focus. And focus is something Bausch needs. She doesn't build theatre in a progressive narrative sense; rather she snews it out in a brilliantly conceived stream of consciousness. constructing a collage of strong feelings acted out in a kind of marathon revue performed by insane dolls. Text. dance and everyday

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movement combine in an obsessive ly repeating patchwork of anger, frustration and futility - her take on the human condition.

The liberation of Viktor is that it's not about anything, yet the emo-tions it creates touch everyone in a most personal way. The suffocation excess of emotion, circling round itself as if caught in a narcissistic loop. Get sucked into Bausch's universe and you will be hooked for hours; lose it and you will suffer interminable boredom.

The piece is set on a magnificent designed stage (credit Peter Pabst). On three sides loom towering walls of earth. It could be a gi ant playground in a post-apocalyptic wasteland; it could be an ant-hill magnified into a mountain; or it could be a freshly dug grave.

The 30-strong company play their parts seemingly unaware of the man above who is shovelling earth down onto the stage. The dancers are manipulated by



Bausch like unwitting puppets: she condemns them to a Sisyphus-like existence, locking them into emphatically repetitive acts which they perform with a manic enthusiasm. An hysterical man sobs for coffee: a harried woman glances with horror at her watch and races off to a mysterious appointment; one

woman is groomed like a horse while another, in a sequinned dress, washes the floor. The game is sometimes wearying, as is Bausch's endless fascination with the accoutrements of female glamour - high heels, fur coats, tight skirts, lipstick

yet her work is shot through with a compensating compassion. Final-

ly, it is the magnificent actor-dane ers who make Bausch's case, each a unique presence on stage. They may be crazy, they may be sense less, they may be doomed, but as rats in the laboratory of Bausch's mind they are undoubted stars.

DEBRA CRAINE

### A fresh take on togetherness

haracter A slobs in a chair reading the sports pages. Character B stalks irritably in. They talk about making tea-walking the dog, how to spend the evening. "All right we'll stay in," says B in huffy, martyred tones. You'll read the paper. I'll waith telly. I'll read the paper and you'll watch the telly, then we'll both watch the telly. And you won't say

anything."

A sardonic picture of suburban wedded bliss? Not exactly. A is Peter Sullivan's slightly yobbish Tony, and B is Andrew Lancel's wincingly dissatisfied Andrew. Like the other six "young men" at the Almeida, they belong to what I would call the gay community, were that not a term that the author. Peter Gill, calls into question. Give or take the occasional yearning to have chil-dren or be conventionally male. they have plenty or common with heterosexuals — and plenty out of common with each other.

over of scenes, lots of brusque, vivid, wryly funny dialogue, fine ac-ing, and the spare staging one asso-ciates with its director, who is also. Peter Gill. On come John Light's nervy, bookish Michael, and hispick-up, Alec Newman's rough. streetwise Stewart. Then it's over to Jeremy Northam's sensitive, possessive David and Andrew Woodall's Christopher, a married man angry at just about everything, down to his wife's wish to send their son to a

school "for very gifted parents". Andrew and Tony complete the bill, along with two unattached characters: Sean Chapman as the play's resident raisonneur, guru or Gill, Danny Dyer as a dim, needy



boy drifter who prefers fellatio with men rather than women because men is more industrious

Though Chris has a fling on the side, and Andrew leaves bny, the -play is less strong on action than on argument, confrontation, nws that sometimes escalate into jolence.

These men are always streams:
These men are always streams;
trying to define what their elationships should and shouldn be.
"Are we supposed to belive like some couple?" asks. exaserated Christopher. "We're faking he shipidities of a take straight rilation-alup, decides distressed Adrew. This isn't a marriage, snaps Tony True—but if they aren married, a couple, or pseudo-staight,

The answer inevitably comes from Robert. There is no "ga sensibility". Homosexuals uncargorisably range from quiet suits t "disco dollies" to raging radicals lublicly "nailing their foreskins to seees of wood" and beyond: A relatonship means finding "someone p share the torture with". Some fill find the message too explicit d too depressing or both; but no I. The least that can be said for Certain Young Men (sponsored # AT&T) is that it is articulate, arreting and as freshly performed as anthing in

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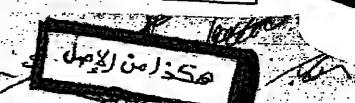




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# Heads you lose, Charles

An anniversary celebration reveals early spin-doctoring,

says **John** Russell Taylor

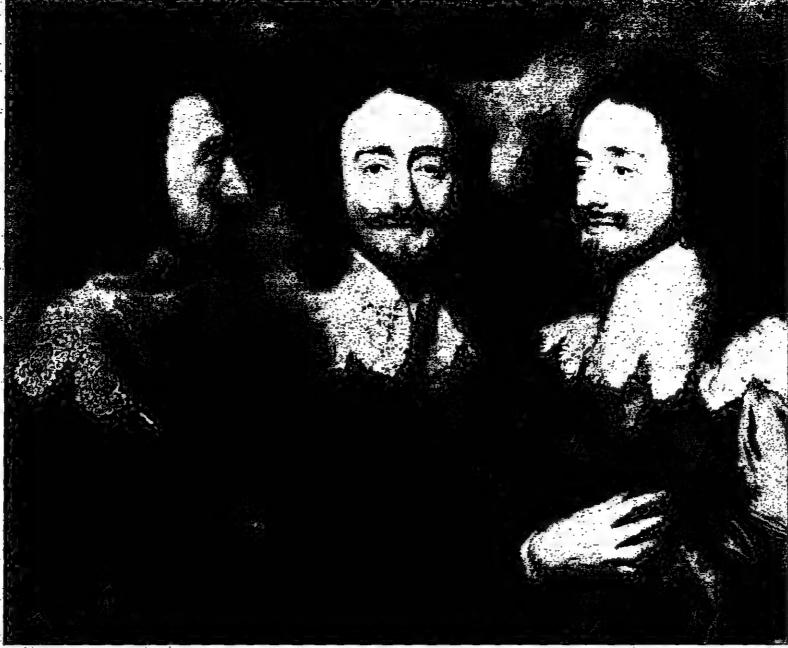
hough the blame for image-manipulation and "spin" is generally placed on the shoul-ders of the late 20th-century, you don't need to penetrate his tory very theroughly to realise that these black arts have been with us since the dawn of time.

Anyone who doubts this should check out The King's Head, the new show at the Queen's Gallery. The King in question is Charles I, and the occasion of the show is the 350th anniversary of his execution, which falls tomorrow.

Other monarchs, of course, went in for image-building. Louis XIV, for instance, was a genius at angling his image to centralise France under his personal rule. And as the re-cent film pointed out, the se-cret of Elizabeth I's power was her deliberate reconstituting of herself as a Virgin Queen and untouchable icon.

With Charles, though, things are not so clear-cut. For one thing he was beheaded deservedly, his Roundhead opponents said; as a holy martyr according to his surviving Cav-alier, supporters. Both sides used visual imagery to vali-date their points of view, and therefiwas a vertiable war of broadsbeets and pamphlets, frequently illustrated with suitable images of the monarch — although it hardly seems to have occurred to any of the opposition to use caricature in the way that satirists of the

one thing we seem to be in no doubt. and that is what Charles looked like. The engraved portraits, however crude and debased, are all agreed on the principal features, and in fact mostly go back to just two or three painted portraits, particularly the definitive images by Van Dyck The existence of these latter came about through Chirles's eagerness, early in his reign, to impose a picture and stature to brand that image on the public imagination. later transformed by Van ently not Bernini observed,



The slightly melancholic expression in Van Dyck's triple portrait of 1635 confers an air of tragic majesty on Charles I even 14 years before his execution

This even applied to the representation of the King by an-other first-rate artist: Bernini, whose bust of Charles dates from 1635. In carrying out Queen Henrietta Maria's commission. Bernini depended for his likeness on Van Dyck's tri-ple portrait Charles I in Three Positions; now one of the most famous pieces in the Royal Col-lection, but virtually unknown

until the early 19th century. Van Dyck not only fixed the image of Charles I for ever. but in the process changed the whole British portrait tradi-tion. One can physically see Henrietta Maria painted by Daniel Mytens in 1630-32, and

Dyck, who completely repainted the figure of the Queen on the right. There is no doubt that Van Dyck was required to make the unprepossessing original image of the Queen preserved in print reproductions and an early copy of the painting into something decidedly more glamorous. He might also have modified the picture of the King, who under Mytens's brush looks slightly

sneery, into the noble; faintly.

sad figure of later portraits.

but for some reason he did

It may be suspected that hindsight confers this air of graved by Hollar. But appar-

when he saw the Van Dyck triple portrait made specifically documentation for him. that the King seemed to have a slightly melancholy aspect. The Bernini bust (destroyed in the Whitehall Palace fire of 1698) appears from the early copy in the exhibition to have retained this melancholy, but to have balanced it with a Baroque swagger. If this Charles does not look particularly like a saint, he could quite possibly

turn out to be a martyr. The question of whether, trictly speaking, he did or not is understandably sidestepped by the present exhibition. But gallant loser: remember Marveil's "He nothing common

did or mean Upon that memorable Scene". Clearly in spite of everything the heroic image stuck: nowhere here would we get the slightest inkling that Charles I was the shortest English monarch (while his son Charles II was, oddly, the tallest. Even in the 17th century. the opposition did not stoop to remarking on the plight of the vertically challenged. Indeed, perhaps the show could do with a little more scur-

rility. After all, isn't the point about the English Civil War surely that the Roundheads were right but repulsive, while

◆ The Queen's Gallery, Bucking-ham Palace, SWI (0171-839 1377).

### Thoughts of Sheffield man

e all know a John Shuttleworth; he's one of those blokes from back home who are always happy to chat for a while and share the intimate details of the new back route they discovered while trying to avoid a traffic jam. A bit of a card but totally humourless, he's one of life's last great opti-mists with a vocabulary derived from Which? magazine and those little paper inserts that come wrapped around boules of prescrip-

tion medicine. But John Shuttleworth has got something a bit more to him, something a hit special, and that's showbiz. Not only is he a keen student of acting: a skill derived from years of firsthand experience watching television; but he is also regular organist at Ken's Karvery, whither we are cordially invited to stuff ourselves silly on John's Bon Tempi buffet.

Shuttleworth's creator, Graham Fellows, has constructed an impeccably be-lievable character, and his portrayal of the earnest Vorkshireman is as affectionate as it is comic. Funny as much of the material is, there are brief moments when one realises that Fellows is playing on our arrogance and tendency to patronise the non latte-drinking, non CD-playing, non e-mail-using elements of this

John Shuttleworth is precynical man par excellence. He can't stop himself from using every available func-tion on his electronic keyboard, just because they're there. He's proud of his Austin Ambassador Y-reg

COMEDY Ken's Karvery Bloomsbury

"it's a car that I revere"; and friend Tony dreams of being a paramedic, he thinks "Mind you, who doesn't -

lovely!"

Of course, for the customers at the Karvery, it's the songs that we've come to hear: Ken Worthington may be battling it out with a Primus stove backstage trying to prepare our starter, but we won't feel satis-fied until we've heard such bathetic classics as Life is Like a Salad Cart (You only get one visit), I Want To Be a Community Leader and I'm a Modern Man, I Do the Washing Up; Apart From the Frying Pan (Be-cause that's best left to soak,

isn't it?).

In the harsh modern world, John Shuttleworth is a character to be cherished; polite, positive, charming and still convinced that Sheffield is the centre of the modern world (although he might consider moving to Skegness for the right cash incentive). I have never been to a show that has inspired the audience to throw Toffee Crisp bars on to the stage at the end, but then, there are precious few comedians who could come out with a line like "It's like that millennium bug is in my organ" without even a whiff of double entendre, so he probably deserves it.

HETTIE JUDAH

### Strategic mismatch

CONCERTS

ne thing the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra does not need, as it struggles for financial survival, is a programme as ineffective as Petr Altrichter's latest compilation. Of course, if he wants to perform Martinu's Rhapsody-Concerto for viola and orchestra, and if he has ac-cess to the soloist for it, he should do it. Butan unfamiliar work like that has to be presented in a persuasive context rather than in the uninformed kind of jumble that the public instinctively reo-

The work would have been strategically better placed before the interval. rather than at the end, and it could usefully have been preceded by another work written by a Czech composer in America. like Dvorák's American Suite. If Tabea Zimmermann was to perform another concerto, rather than a faceless number by one of the numerous Staminz family it should have been, say, Mozarrs Sinfonia Concertante with the RLPO leader as joint soloist. After the Mozart, Brahms's Serchade in A major, with its prominent role for orchestral violas, would have made an

appropriate ending.
Anyway, what the sparse audience in the Philharmonic Hall actually heard at the beginning of the concert was Dvorak's Wind Serenade in D mi-nor, which was acceptably performed but contextually pointless. The Mozart they got after the interval was the "Paris Symphony in D, K.297, which was brightly done but — given Altrichter's exaggerated signals to an orchestra that only needs to be conducted — with little chance of subflety in interpretation. Zimmermann's playing in Karl Stamuz's Viola Concerto in D was too highly coloured and elaborated for the

modest score it really is.

The Rhapsody-Concerto, on the other hand, found both soloist and conductor at their best. Although it betrays in its later stages Martinu's characteristic impatience to get on with the next work in the catalogue, and although it is fairly shapeless in construction, it is redolent with melodious nostalgia. Zimmer-mann's elegiac sound, Altrichter's identification with Martinu's Czech sentiments and the RLPO's sensitivity in accommodating itself to both of them combined to inspire affection of a kind rarely associated with this composer.

GERALD LARNER

### First prize for charm



hen the American baritone Marcus DeLoach walked off Marcus Deloach walken on with the first prize at the first Wigmore Hall International Song Competition in 1997, it was clear that the jury and audience had been impressed as much with his skills of communication and showmanship as with his musical arristry. After all, he beat a busily employed English opera singer and a young German Lieder specialist.

And it was DeLoach's love of his audience which won the day again when he returned to London to give his debut prizewinning recital. His wooing was shameless in his encores: having dis-covered that Henry Higgins lived just round the corner from the Wigmore Hall, he regaled his audience with On the street where you live; then went on to patter about lying awake with a dis-mal headache in highly polished Gil-bert and Sullivan English. Before this DeLoach had repeated

one of his prizewinning songs, Aaron

Copland's I bought me a cat, at the end of an entertaining group of less well-known American pieces. Copland's contemporary, Randall Thompson, was in-troduced by his Velvet Shoes, the voice treading a hymn-like path through white snow and white silence. And Charles Ives's The greatest man was preceded by a little-known song by Richard Hageman: a mock-heroic setting of G.K. Chesterton's The Donkey.

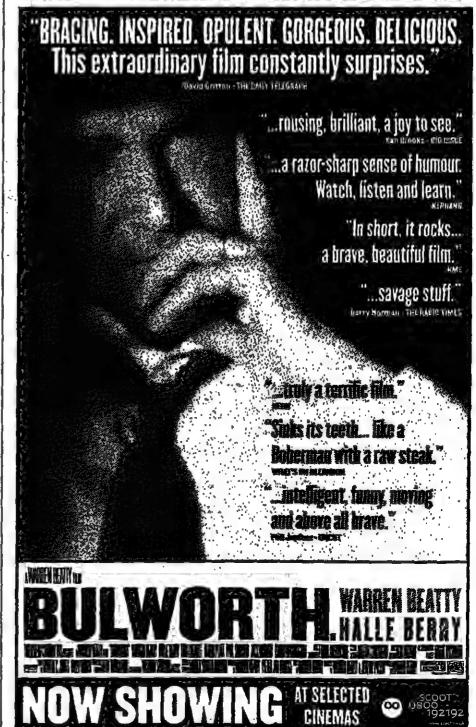
in all these songs DeLoach worked overtime to kindle some response in a rather solemn audience. They had been charmed by five songs by Chaus-son which had gone before. Here DeLoach's clearly focused, effortlessly inflected baritone, with its ringing high register, had confirmed his sympathy for and ease in the French repertoire. But if DeLoach's vocal concentration had been marched by closer verbal fo-cus, then these songs and especially his preceding Mendelssohn group would have been twice as eloquent. Despite Thomas Bagwell's vivid accompany ing. DeLoach's German tends to sound learnt by rote: verbal and musical rhythm is too laid-back, and weak vow-els make for weak expression. Deloach is just 24, and only three years out of Juilliard. He has been

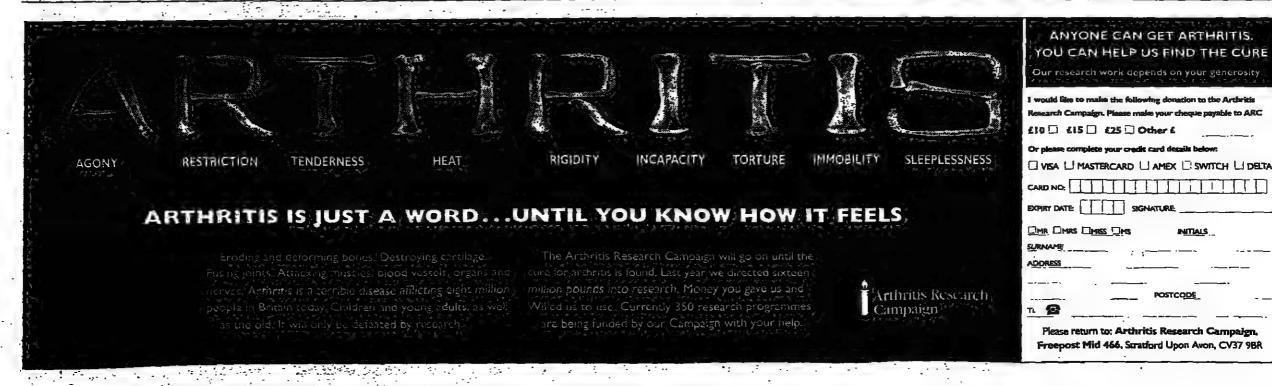
busy on the boards at St Louis; but

there is still time for more intensive

coaching in Lieder, and perhaps some time out spent exploring Germany or

Austria with his prize money. HILARY FINCH





POP INTERVIEW

Tequila with Terrorvision

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: Bernard Heltink conducts the LPO in Mozart's Jupiler Symphony followed by Bartok's eenle one-acter Duke Bluebeard's Castle. one-acter under Buseler's Cash With Rigitic Komiost as the fact Judith and Kolos Kovats as her serister nobleman husbard. Feathwal Hall (0771-960 4242). Tornorrow, 7.30pm. (2)

PICASSO AND PHOTOGRAPHY: The Dark Mirror: An exhibition exploring the influence of photography on the development of the Cubist artist. Over 300 terms including self-portraits, landscapes and experimental works are on show, as are a married that the contract of development of related calculations. ber of related paintings and dra Berbican Art Gallery (0171-638 8891). Opens today. (5)

BEETHOVEN CYCLE: Louis Lorde continues his sedes of recitals partor-ming all Beethoven's plano sonatiss. Here the Caracitan vinuoso texides & programme which includes Sonatas in D (Passoral) and C (Moonlight). Wigmore Hall (1071-935 2141). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

Photos by Picasso go on show at the Barbican

charged sensuality.
Eridgewater Hall (0161-907 9000).
Sunday, 4pm and 7.30pm. OXFORD: The brilliant young Rus

CXX-FORD: The brilliant young Fussian planet Borts Berezovsky lays on a musical barquet of three large Romantic pieces from his native land. On the menu are Mussorgeky's Pictures at an Exhibition and Night on a Bere Mountain, and Rachmaninov's Variations on a Thoma of Chopin. Sheldonian Theatre (01865 798600).



Jeremy Kingston's choice of theetre shouling in Landon III House full, returns only in Some seats available in Seats et all prices

N THE FOREST: Akin Ayddourn adapts Ostrovsky's sardonic 1870 correctly, with Michael Feast's improvented actor trying to Impress his rich aunt (Frances de la Your). Anthony Page directs, Lyttetton (0171-452 3000), 👸

N OKCAHOMAL National Theatre cast includes Maureen Lipman in transfer of Trevor Num's Rodgers and Hammerstein. Lyceum (0171-416 6099). SAD WEATHER: Robert Holman's

discursive play where a French name, (Susan Engel) resolves some problem in a Middlesbrough tower block. Odd yet haunting. Pft (0171-638 8891). THE MEMORY OF WATER: Alsor Steadman, Samentha Bond and Julia Sawalha etar in Shelagh Stephen-

New End (0171-794 0022) (5) CERTAIN YOUNG MEN Peter Gill directs Jeremy Northern, Seen Chectman and strothers in his exploration of the kay loday's men iwe logether Almeida Theatre (0171-359 4404). 🔂

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15): SHANCESPEARE IN LOVE (15):
Hipping yearn about the struggling, upstart William Shakespeare, with a cracking soript by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard, Gwyneth Paltrow secola as the Bard's across-dressing muse. John Madden directs.

less new women in Ed Herns's tile, and Susan Serendon as the termins Molone and lan Alten, give it s gh Kleenex rating, Fielentiessly icers movis by Chris Columbus. VERY BAD TYBINGS (18): Peter Berg's macabre comedy thriller satirises buddy movies and armug autuation as by chopping up half the Christian Stater and Cemeron Diaz TWO GIFILS AND A GUY (15):

Wagner and Heether Grahem. Jemes Toback's chember piece on sessel fidelity promptly falls on its award when both girls fall to crucily him.

Claude Leiguch's whimsical French sesside romence won two Cocars it 1965. Apart from the soutid perfor-mences of Aricuk Aimée and Jeannce won two Oncors it

CURRENT

Tuctor's controversal block about the late Jacqueline du Pré. With Emily Watson and Rachel Grafitts. PRACTICAL MAGIC (12): Sendra Bullock and Nicole Indmen star at ctives in a grathic soap about aix BLEWORTH (18): Warren Besity's

Velcome return for Theetre de Complicaté's evenive staging of Bruno Schulz's inapical recoffections of pre-Nazi Poland Queens (0171-494 5041)

☐ VASSA: Shelia Hancock heads a

Albery (0171-369 1730). ☐ BRIEF CANDLE: Dens Ouley plays various European celebrities who tell for the charms of young Marie Bash-Idrasoff (Calla White) in the 1880s Bash- kirisen (com vision) and figured in her posthumously nublished claries, Stella Ousley directs.

A MAN AND A WOMAN (PG):

If ever there was a rock band born to have a huge hit single with a song called Tequila, it's Terrorvision

# Lads in the best of spirits

quila! It makes me ... happy! Con tequi-Con tequila when the doors are opened, and con tequila when they're calling 'Time'.

That's the curse of tequila."

The lyrics to the week's No 2. single aren't just idle conjecture or rock-star faffing: the Bradford four-piece Terrorvision speak from a position of academic knowledge. It was tequila that led to lead singer Tony Wright breaking both his ankles in Madrid.

Apparently the Hard Rock Café there has a particularly covetable H in its neon sign and, while scaling the building in an attempt to detach the letter, Wright fell and snapped both his ankles.

"I thought I was safe," he ex-



CAITLIN **MORAN** 

plains, "because I was attached to the 'H' and the 'H' was attached to the building. Ididn't realise that it would no longer be attached to the building if I removed it."
Tequila wasn't going to be a

single, but following a concerted campaign by Zoe Ball on the Radio 1 Breakfast Show, its Fatboy Slim-esque remix is now a palpable hit, and will appear on stag night compilation tapes and Friday night juke-boxes from now until God calls "Time". Given that they would have been No 1 if Offspring's grungey Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) hadn't pipped them in the race for the post, it's magnanimous of Terrorvision not to hold any grudge against their Ameri-

"Well, no. I like Pretty Fly myself." Wright muses. "If it were Cher or somebody like that I'd be right cheesed off, but it feels right that it should be us and them. I can't remember the last time two rock bands were together at the top of the charts. It doesn't happen that often. It's like the total eclipse of the Sun or something, innit? People travel to

Ensconced in a smug, flashy West London hotel, recovering



from the previous night's NME party, the band are wryly enjoying fame's accounte-ments. "I can't remember a time I was so drunk as last night," Wright says - something you feel must be quite a statement in his case. "People kept giving us tequila."

We don't know why," guitarist Mark Yates says, looking bewildered.
We ended up at Space's ho-

tel, and I still don't know how," Wright continues. "I oke ud and idere was diood all over the sheets. It had come out of my nose. I think my pillows were very hard." It's been a long, hard, enjoy-

able slog for Terrorvision. They reflect nostalgically on the early days of the group, when they used to meet on Tuesdays and pool their pay cheques to pay for rehearsal time. "We all used to put £15 in the kitty, and if there was anything left, we'd spend it down the pub," Yates recalls.

The pub is underestimated as a place of learning. For instance," he says, leaning across the table, "if you get a piece of liver, and put it on a plate in the fridge near to a glass of milk, in the morning the liver will have moved, of its own accord, next to the milk. Now, where else are you NE TO LEST TO TOTAL DATE THOM productive night down the

"Carol Vorderman would never tell you that," Leigh Marklew, the band's golfing bassist, points out. "Or any of them Watchdog people."

Terrorvision are everything a band should be: aside from meets-Madness pop, they're familiar enough with the con-cept of Holding Down Proper Jobs to realise that being in a band is a hoot, and so in love with rock's Hanna Barbera

logic that they try to make eve-

ry gig an event. a very long anecdote, we got a load of schoolchildren to do the vocais. Dur Edwyn Collins got six of his daughter's schoolmates for the

"But we obviously can't get those children to tour with us-- the amount of pop they drink would cripple us financially. So we were thinking

their infectious, AC/DC about getting six girls from the andience to join us onstage every night, chosen in the Willy Vonka Way. What's the Willy Wonka Way?" Shutty, the drummer,

> "Glad you asked me, Shut-Worka Way is to issue six spen and whoever a very lains, beginning or has them can always a very lains. er has them can take their place onstage with us, as that night's Terrorvision Tequila Girls. They il get to shout Te-

> > 16. I'd have been made up." Given that Terrorvision have three albums of bouncy. infectious rifferama under their belts, as well as the hit singles Oblivion, with its doo-

> > wop hook, and Perseverance,

microphone. If I'd been al-

lowed to do that when I was

Yates responds, boggle-eyed. Its brilliant We've been 18 mg Sin Prin made honorary members of the Tequila Society: they meet every Thursday in Leedsland > drink 250 bottles in a night.

And these are our people now. We feel night special."
You never really get tired of Martie adds, sagely. "It may treatyou? bad in the mornings, but you, always come back to it. Like a bad but exciting lover. Tennila: will never lose its allure for

the Whales and delprins".

are they a little perved aftering now known as the Taquila band?

"Gerroff. Are you liking?".

● Tomila is released by EMI/Total Vegas records, as is the album. Shaving Peaches

### THE MODERN ANTIQUARIAN ON TOUR EEDS IRISH CENTRE GLEE CLUB SHEFFIELD LEADMIL HE STABLES THEATRÊ BRISTOL WATERSHED EVERYMAN THEATRE

### Well-matched pair

**ERIC LONGSWORTH** (Intuition INT 3228 2)

IN THE notes accompanying this duo album Marc Johnson identifies his chief artistic aim as "transcending the stereotypes that are often associated with our instruments". Given that these are bass and, in Eric Longsworth's case, the electric cello, it is easy to sympathise: it is, nevertheless, an aim achieved by the rich and emotive music on the album.

Longsworth is a Canadian with a classical background, but his wide-ranging solo concerts have won him many admirers. Here he employs an extraordinary variety of techniques, from vigorous bowing through propulsive strum ming to the most delicate of plucked accompaniment, to produce sounds and textures that can resemble everything JAZZ ALBUMS

from ebullient country hoedown to plangent Maghrebi oud music. Johnson, whether in robust soloing mode or playing his more accustomed solid supportive role, matches Longsworth for both imagination and energy, and the album's beguiling overall sound is a tribute to the versatility and vision of both men.

■ CAROLINE TAYLOR QUINTET For the Moment

(CMT Music CMTCDS42) AN AMERICAN, resident in the UK since 1986. Caroline Taylor grew up listening to Benny Goodman, Bix Beiderbecke and Fats Waller, but the music her British quintet play is firmly rooted in the hardbop tradition epitomised by another drummer-leader, Art

poser is Horace Silver. Her originals - all but two numbers on this immediately accessible, sparky album - come right from the heart of classic Blue Note territory. There are blues, both loping and slinky, bustling up-tempo pieces enli vened by bursts of Latin rhythm, and soul-jazz dance erooves, all spearheaded by the punchy trumpet of Neil Yates and the deep, assured tenor of Denys Baptiste.

With Taylor driving a faultless rhythm section - the steady, eloquent bass of Simon Thorpe and Dave Frankel's fluent plano - the album (which also features a moving version of Leslie Bricusse's When I Look in Your Eyes sung by Claire Martin) should stir up interest in the band's forthcoming ten-date UK tour.

CHRIS PARKER

Josh White had three distinct musical careers. In the 1930s he was a big-selling and commerical blues star. A decade later he reinvented himself as a folk singer performing topical and of-ten overtly political material. In the 1950s, after denouncing his former "Communist" colleagues before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, he became an all-round entertainer who gave lots of European audiences their first taste of the blues.

It's that intriguing middle period, when White was still the darling of the American left, that is featured on Free and Equal Blues (Smithsonian Folkways SFCD 4008t). It is a fascinating mixture of commercial pop such as One Meat Ball and Miss Otis Regrets, blues such as Leroy Carr's Mean Mistreatin' Woman and the political messages of Beloved Comrade — a tribute to Roosevelt — No More Blues (No More Bread Lines) and the CD's title track, a fascinat-

The left's right-on traitor

BLUES ALBUMS

ing song about the absurd wartime practice of keeping black and white blood segregated. For those who think of White as merely an effective if mannered folk singer, the album is a revelation.

By the Sixties, the definition of a blues singer had moved to encompass Lazy Lester, one of a group of Louisiana bluesmen whose relaxed and goodnatured style of music became known as swamp blues. Now 65, Lester sounds as relaxed. or should we say as chilled out, as ever on All Over You (Aniones ANTO042). The har-

some top names from Texas including guitarist Sue Foley for a romp through some louisiana favourites including two of Lester's former successes. I'm A Lover Not A Fighter and You're Gonna Ruin Me Baby. One of the defining mo-

ments of the John Waters movie Hairspray was the spiden. appearance of a little-known soul singer called Toussaint McCall performing a ballad of such strength and purity that it made you want to yelp with pleasure. That song, You, now takes pride of place in the much-awaited second volume of Deep Soul Treasures chosen by black music ex-pert Dave Godin (Kent CD-KEND 156). Alongside are a host of other soul ballad gems including the sublime, driginal version of Go Now by Bes sie Banks, an early civil rights anthem, Cryin' In The Streets by George Perkins, and the Stunning Let's Take A Chance by Lisa Richards.

JOHN CLARKE

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The Page June 12 ....

## Can't teach old punks new licks

**NEW POP ALBUMS:** The Offspring have brought a whiff

THE OFFSPRING

(Columbia COL 491656 £12.99) IN BRITAIN the pure pop bandwagon rolls merrily on.
But it seems as if a reaction is
simally setting in, and suddenby all sorts of American rock
lands that have been toiling away unnoticed on the margms for most of the 1990s are enjoying an upswing in their fortunes in this country. Seba-doh and Mercury Rev were rampant at last week's NME shows. This week the Offspring are No I in the singles chart with their rock-rap rum-ble Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) and now their latest al-

burn, Americana, has come back from the dead. Released in November, when it scraped into the Top 75 for one week, Americana is the kind of record that even two months ago hardly rated a mention outside the specialist rausic press. Now it has made its debut in the Top Ten.

A bunch of nouveau punk diehards, the Californian quartet released their first album ten years ago, since when they

of the Asian Underground.

the title seemed an accurate

enough description. While the

music of second-generation

British Asians thrived in cult-

Blue Note, the rest of the world remained indifferent: Two years on the name is woe-

fully out of date. British Asian

musicians boldly mixing East

the mainstream as the sound

First Cornershop, with their

roots in Punjab and Wolver-

hampion, topped the charts

with Brimful of Asha, a hom-

age to the king of Indian film soundtracks. Then Asian Dub

Foundation stormed the barri-

cades with their dynamic brand of home-grown agit-pop Now come Black Star Lin-

er and Joi, who have both been Shankar.

and West have marched into

of multicultural Britain.

of 1977 to the charts. Oh good, says David Sinclair have doggedly pursued a one-track musical agenda which has secured them a string of in-ternationally successful records, most notably Smash, released in 1004

ly not the Offspring.

Youth Experience!

**BLACK STAR LINER** Bengali Bantam ..

(WEA 3984250042 £15.99)

chapter. And part of the charm of Bengali Bantam

Youth Experience!, the second

alburn by the Leeds-based trio

Black Star Liner, is that it still

sounds very much like a work in progress. Restlessly innovative and en-

Restlessify innovative and en-dearingly exotic, the album nev-ertheless suffers from a mild case of attention deficit disor-der. Early on, Choque Hosein (see interview below) raps out his nonsense words on Low BMW with wonderful exhiber-

ance while tablas and sitars

meld seamlessly into the tran-cey groove of Gurdeep's Yellow

Funk. But the impact rather

dissipates towards the end. as

released in 1994.

Americana conforms to a fa-miliar formula, boasting most-ly short, deceptively melodic tunes played at high volume and driven at uniformly reck-less speed. The juvenile, liberal-bailing lyrics of She's Got Is-sues and Walla Walla are gilded with rowdy yobs chorus chants, custom built for beery, mosh-pit singalongs, while the untypically relaxed Why Don't You Get A Job? — a song about a girlfriend who has "expensive tastes"-could well be another Top Five hit were it to be given a radio edit that trimined the worst of the lyri-

Subtlety, then, is not their strongest point and one hesi-

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

burns fusing their Asian herit-

age with high ocrane Western

dance beats. Waiting in the

den, the Asian underground is

beginning to look like an irre-

Star Liner made an extraordi-

nary appearance at London's Jazz Cafe. What began as a

routine music industry album

launch ended up as a riotous

celebration of an idea whose time has come with songs cele-

heroes as Prince Naseem and

sounding like the Happy Mon-

days jamming with Ravi

sistible movement.



One hesitates to talk up a record such as the Offspring's Americana as the harbinger of a watershed in popular taste

name, the Mutton Birds are a band which stubbornly refus-

es to fly.

Still lacking an image, a hit single and — since they were dropped by Virgin — a proper record deal, the trio from New Zealand led by singer, guitarist and songwitter Don

fourth studio recording, is a typically sober collection of melodic-rock

Nigel Williamson meets Black Star Liner and Joi, the latest bands to emerge from the British Asian underground

songs, written and performed with a minimum of fuss but (pace the inevitable and optimistic comparisons Crowded House) with little

guile or originality either. While the artfully clanging guitars lend drama and impetus to uptempo songs such as Pulled Along By Love and As-CloseAsThis, McGlashan fails to convert his earnest, introspective musings into sentiments of more universal appeal on Jackie's Song, Hands Full, Ray and other slow, minor-key offerings.

KARAMASOV On Arrival

(Satellite STL 016 E14.99) GROUPS such as Karamasov are the free radicals of the pop world. Flitting unpredictably around the fringes of art-rock, jazz and electronica, the Anglo-German quartet's primarily instrumental album, On Ar-rival, inhabits a parallel universe in which (whatever the title may suggest) the impor-tance of boldly going far out-weighs that of actually getting anywhere.

### Laugh? I nearly danced

A FEW years ago, comedy was meant to be the new rock'n' roll. Barenaked Ladies go one better and combine the two. not as some novelty act with a trite line in slapstick parody but by making serious music that at the same time is able to laugh at pop's pretensions. The likes of Madness and Squeeze have been there before, but humour is a rare intruder in rock's emotional terrain, where looking miserable has become part of the job.

The Barenakeds, on the other hand, just can't take the grins off their faces - and they have a lot to smile about right now. The Canadian quintet's first British show in almost three years found them riding the crest of a wave, with three million sales in America for

their latest album, Stunt. At the Shepherd's Bush Empire most of the humour came

#### LIVE GIG Barenaked Ladies Empire, W12

from the two frontmen, Steven Page and Ed Robinson, who could make an alternative career as a stand-up duo, except that they are having much more fun being improbable pop stars. The chubby and bespectacled Page combines his classic rock voice with the mannerisms of Mike Myers in the spool movie Austin Powers, while Robinson's best gag involved getting a security guard to play a guitar duet with him.

The jokes worked because there is nothing comical about their musical accomplishments. The band rocked, the songs showed melodic flair, the harmonies were gorgeous and songs such as Be My Yoko One and Brian Wilson displayed a perfect understand-ing of pop's iconography. Some might find their unre-lenting jollity irritating. In a bizarre ritual now familiar at every gig, a packet of macaro-ni cheese was thrown and Page picked it up and proceedents. The crowd for some reason found this hilarious.

But One Week, a white college boy rap, was both smart and funny and is destined to be a Top Five single here. "Ir's all been done before," they sang in their opening number. Of course it has, but seldom with such wit and entertaining

WILLIAMSON

#### TOP TEN ALBUMS

		4 4 4 4	
(1)	You've Come a Lo	og Way, Baby	Fatboy Slim (Skir
	: I've Been Expecti	ag You	Robbie Williams (Chrysal
	Talk ou Consecs		Corra (Atlanti
	- Diagr Opes		Steps UN
[3]	Ladies & Section		George Michael (Epi
(4)	. Where We Below		Boyzona (Polydo
	Forgiven, Not For		Corrs (Atlanti
	Tay of Light		
ш	Big Willia Style		Will Smith (Columbi
ш	) Big Willie Style		Will Smith (Columb

hen Talvin Singh around for much of the decade made an album but find themselves with macalled The Soundz jor label deals and new al-

ish clubs such as London's whose debut is due later this

· · · Eigure in brackets indicates last week's position

#### the album winds down with a sequence of increasingly vague instrumental pieces. McGlashan continue to put out albums more in hope than THE MUTTON BIRDS expectation of any significant Rain, Steam & Speed (shhhh! SHCDP 001 £15.99 Rain, Steam & Speed, their

UNLIKE the migrating albatross from which they take their curiously unappealing

> we would turn it up and they dia is finally paying attention would wonder what the hell it to the Asian scene, because it was - but they would still be is what we have worked to-dancing to it. It was seen as wards. But I hope it isn't going off-the-wall Paki music but it seemed very natural to us. We wanted to give our own people a sense of identity."

Last year they made the transition from sound system to full performing band, adding guitars and singers. "We can't be disappointed that the me-

to be seen as a passing phase. If it gets overhyped it could get lost when the next fad comes

the opening track from this col-

lection. Uneven Surface, they

sound like American oddballs

Primus without the silly vo-

cals; at their most breezy and

chic, as on Sun Always Shines in Space, they could almost be mistaken for the modish French duo. Air.

Brilliantly played, but mili-tantly lo-fi, the album is con-

ceived in a delightfully enquir-ing spirit, an echo of the days

when "progressive" used to sig-

nal something unusual and ex-

citing rather than self-indul-

gent and long-winded.

Bengali Bantam Youth Experience by Black Star Uner is reviewed above. Asian Vibes by Jol is

NAS BRITAIN'S MOST WANTED.

### Brimful of Asia on the 45 (and LP) wings is Amar, a 19-year-old Punjabi singer from Walsali,

year amid rumours that her deal with Warner Bros is worth £3 million. All of a sudpeople talk about the Asian underground," admits Choque Hosein, Black Star Liner's Earlier this week, Black charismatic frontman. At school I was the only Asian guy, and I remember the teacher making me play tambou-rine and bongos in front of the whole class because I was supposed to have a sense of rhythm. It was such a stereotype. People think all Asians brating such British Asian

can do is dance and cook." His Leeds upbringing makes him sound more like Geoff Boycott than Sachin Ten-

ing football at Elland Road and being abused as the only Asian on the terraces, "When I began playing in guitar bands it was white musicians and white audiences. Now we are everywhere. We took your jobs and now we've taken your mu-sic," he jokes. "Asians have become versed in rock culture. It's ours too, and now we are

giving it back to you."

Hosein grew up feeling an outsider not only because of the racial abuse he suffered, but because he was also at odds with many of the atti-tudes of his Indian father. Somewhere out of that conflict comes the music of Black Star Liner. "I didn't understand that many of my Dad's prejudices came from his background. He used to make us spend the summer holidays doing extra homework. That's the way Asian families are. But he taught me a lot about where he came from and about my grandparents and I always took great pleasure in

Paradoxically, it was white rock music that drove him back to his Asian roots. "I heard all these psychedelic records using sitars and Indian influences. Then, when I lis-

that heritage. He played Bolly-wood music, I'd be listening to

the Rolling Stones, and it was all mixed in together."

alised that the rock stuff wasn't very good. I was sure I could do it better because I understood it. For me it was real. not just some cool multicultural hippy buil."

A week earlier I had sat in a

café in the heart of London's East End with Farook and Haroon Shamsher, the two Bengali brothers who constitute Joi. Their new single, Asian Vibes, a fabulous swirling piece of British Asian pop which puts the pretensions of Kula Shaker to shame, is released next month, to be followed by their debut album in

ike Hosein, the brothers are proud of their Asian I heritage but are equally steeped in Western influences. "We were born and brought up here and influenced by hip hop, funk, soul and reggae." Haroon says, "But our Dad had a shop selling music to the Asian community so we heard traditional Bengali music."

They started mixing the dif-ferent elements, DJ-ing at clubs with the Joi Bangla Sound System. "When we started rapping we would give the crowd a Michael Jackson groove and then we would mix in a traditional Bengali thing. very slowly so they hardly noticed," Farook recalls. "Then



"People think that all Asians can do is dance and cook," says Black Star Liner's Choque Hosein (foreground)





POST\$

### **Head of Prep** The Grange School

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The Secretary of State for Education and Employment invites applications for the posts of Chair (one post) and Depitty Chairs (two posts) to serve on this new body. The Examinations Appeals Board (EAR) will have an important role to play in helping to maintain the standard and rigour of major national qualifications. Initially, it will be responsible for hearing final appeals for GCSEs and GCE A levels. Other qualifications will be added to its remit in due course. It will consider whether awarding bodies have applied consistent, fair and proper procedures in the assessment and awarding of results.

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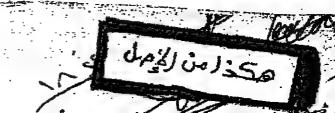
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### EDUCATION

### A danger to young women'

ducating irls was stil founded, says Susan Elkin

errare frequently said to be overtaking men, it is easy to forget that only 75 years ago education for women was considered an indulgence and then only for a

It has taken a long time for women's education to catch up withits male counterpart.
There has been enormous progress in a relatively short time since the pioneers Miss Beale and Miss Buss founded Cheltenhant Ladies' College and London Collegiate School in

A new book, Benenden - A Great Company, celebrates the Kent school's first 75 years and the changing face of wom-en's education. "Continuous mental affort is a danger to young women" was the opin-ion in the 1890s of the British Medical Association. It declared that too much brain work during puberty would damage women's future reproductive capacity. How the education of women progressed in the face of such opposition is

astounding. David Souden, the author of Benenden, describes the massive rearguard campaign. By the turn of the century there were 61 girls' schools, 22 running under the auspices of the Girls Public Day School Trust (now the Girls' Day School

Beneriden - the former Victorian Gothic home of Lord Rothermere, which is set in magnificent parkland - did not aim to be an academic hoshouse. Yet today it holds a high position breaking league tables and almost all its sixth-

formers go on to university The school was founded by Christme Sheldon, Anne Hindie and Kathleen Bird in 1924. The adventurous personalities of the founders are somewhat belied by the staid tweedy air they present in the 1948 por-trait by Kenneth Green, which hangs in the school's entrance hall. In fact, the three were bored thirtysomething escapers from Wycombe Abbey who were out to break the educa-

tional mould. Miss Bird, known as Birdie, would recount: "We hatched the plan in the stationery currboard at Wycombe Abbey, where we used to go to eat

With only £100 each to invest, they relied on their powerful blend of idealism and eagerness to find enough backers to enable them to open with 24 girls. They wanted to create a modern, relaxed envi-



Women getting out there. Benenden pupils take part in a lesson on Shakespeare in the school's Kent grounds during the inter-war years

ronment rather than one bound by petty rules or that mimicked the ancient establishments attended by their pupils' brothers. Their charges would be able to develop freely. As one early pupil re-calls: You could learn anything in the world you fancied: bellringing or Greek, forestry or pottery, or how to cook salmon. Kindness mattered a great deal and when I left I cried for a formight because I truly believed that the best years of my life were over."

oday's Benenden girls. Mr Souden says wryly, are more likely to be surfing the Internet than keeping poul-try in the pursuit of the "hobbies" so passionately advocated by Miss Bird.

Then, when examination curriculums did not hold every school in such thrall, one afrent pupils, who take equal optermoon a week was systematiportunities for granted, to cally devoted to horse-breedgrasp that when their greatgrandmothers were school-girls science teaching was aling, learning a musical instrument, writing poetry and other activities. Everyone participatmost non-existent. Mr Souden cites the examed and there wasn't much "them and us" any more than

ple of one Benenden girl who went up to Oxford in 1927 havthere is at Benenden now. "Can I have another butterfly ing learnt what passed for scinet," one pupil wrote home in the 1920s, "because I have a ence in a laboratory without gas. Miss Burrell, the science mistress, could only draw a friend called Birdie who keeps Bunsen burner for her, so the Mr Souden writes: The student had to have private tui-1920s were boom years for intion before university.

Today opportunities have dependent schools. There was

an abundance of dedicated never been greater for women, teachers who were part of that and most expect to work for a significant part, if not all, their substantial body of unmarried women in Britain between the active lives. But it still takes a school history to remind us wars. For the first generation of university-educated how far we have come. women, teaching was one of

 Benenden — A Great Company is published by Granta Editions at £18.95. It is hard for Benenden's cur-

### A case for natural justice

happily, meets only rarely. Until this week's disqualification of Robin Lindsay, the former Headmas-ter and proprietor of Sherborne Preparatory School. it last sat three years ago. Many of those who fol-lowed Mr Lindsay's case will think that there should be changes before it does so

The barring of Mr Lind-

sion of inspection reports years painted a picture of maladministration and questionahle behaviour. He showed an apparently obsessive interest in boys' physidevelop ment, constant ly supervising weighing the

rugby feam na-ked. He would wander the school in pyjamas during the day and sometimes took children into his bedroom at night, stroking their heads, cuddling or tickling them if he found them awake.

Because of an unusual combination of circumstances, however, Mr Lindsay denied himself the right to answer even more serious charges. On the word of a psychlatrist, he was branded a "fixated paedo-phile", and three former pupils' allegations of sexual assaults were heard without challenge. Although the complaints relating to the assaults were not upheld, they remain on file. The most serious of them, made years after the event by a boy Mr Lindsay expelled, was not pursued by the Di-rector of Public Prosecutions and would surely have been demolished in cross-examination.

Mr Lindsay appealed against disqualification to save the school, to which he had devoted most of his life, from immediate closure He then withdrew the appeal to facilitate a takeover by a local trust, but the tribunal's rules require that the case must be heard any way. It is hard to imagine

another legal forum which such damaging allegations could be heard without any defence. Now 70, Mr Lindsay may conform to a psychlatrist's paedophile.

lour described in evidence to the tribunal did not seem to fit the common usage of the term. Many

boarders from previous eras will recall similar characters, who would have fallen foul of modern convention but were not abusers. Roy Chapman, the former Headmaster of Malvern College, who was also an exwitness, correctly judged that Sherborne was a school "in a time warp".

Owner-head teachers of preparatory schools can be a law unto themselves and occasionally ride roughshod over the interests of pupils and staff. The penalty of disqualification may then be the only one available to curb their excesses. but there must be natural justice in the treatment of appeals. A one-sided public hearing is hardly that.

### Your country needs you

borrowing mine?"

respectable career."

ow remarkable that one of the spin-offs from the British Em-pire is an education system in Singapore that is highly regarded, and whose professional workers are so valued that applications for teacher-training places are oversubscribed.

What a contrast with the United Kingdom, where we have a profession that is being talked up by politicians after being battered to the ground by them in previous decades. Recruits are still hard to find: we print

glossy brochures, we join the "Milk Round" at universities, an advertising campaign declares that no one forgets a good teacher and the Government says it is going to pay superteachers more. Despite this, we cannot encourage people to Examples that point to the reasons are

numerous: my son starts his training coutract at a law firm on the same salary as it takes an honours graduate with one year's postgraduate training seven years to reach. We ask teachers to work in schools that are in a bad state of repair. We ask them to teach without providing them with the tools of the trade. How odd that a newspaper reported recently for the first time in 100 years that the teachers in a village school did not have to World provision at the end of the 20th

Rhetoric is not enough the Government needs to be creative. One way forward is to create a system of short-service commissions in teaching, akin to those used in the Armed Forces. Given that transferable skills are fashionable, it is time to recognise that a trained teacher is sations outside education because of the skills required.

Like the Armed Forces, the teaching profession would benefit from short-service commissions, says Jenny Stephen

the few available outlets for a

The teacher has to refine exceptional communication skills and to deal with children across all boundaries of gender. age and ability. The teacher has to take swaths of factual information and boil it swaths of factual information and boil it down to bite-sized lumps, packaging it attractively and tailoring its delivery to strict time limits. The teacher has to blend strict professional ethics and principles with a capacity to learn when and where to compromise. The teacher has to work as a member of a team and yet retain individuality. The teacher has to view people in their entire complexity, as a brain and as a body, as a set of emo-tions as well as an intellect. The teacher has to come to terms with external methods of assessment and national standards, yet never stop self-monitoring.

he teacher has to be able to learn quickly and to take his or her work home. The teacher has to learn to adapt, from A level to remedial, from classroom to playground. The teacher has to be willing to take a decision, and to know when to defer a decision. The teacher has to read what others write and assess it, as well as writing reports for others to read and assess. The teacher has to learn how to keep up in his or her subject as well as teaching it.

These are crucial skills which we should learn to transfer. Short service commissions work for the Army; why not a priceless asset in a large range of organi for teaching? Industry, the Civil Service, universities and the professions need these short-service commission schemes School in Hartford, Cheshire.

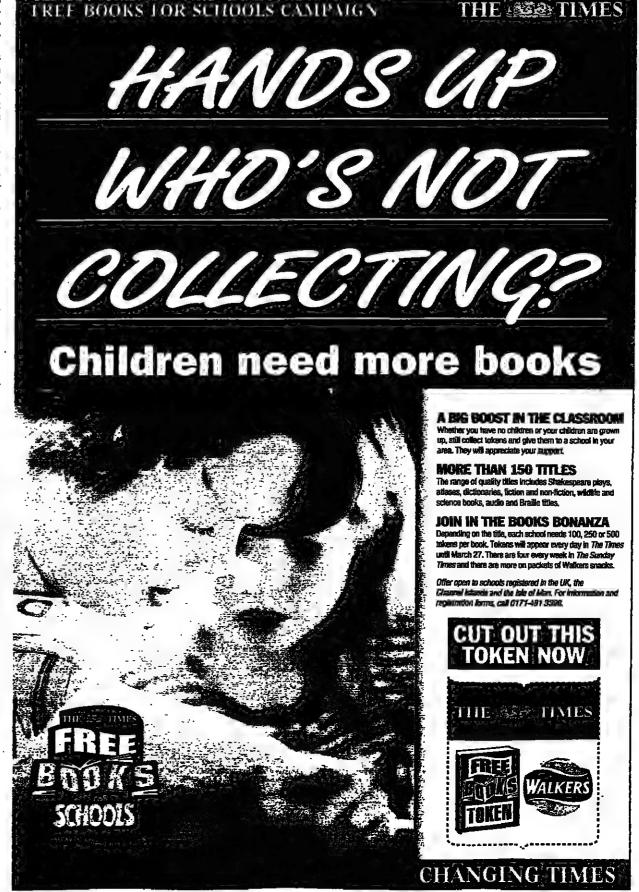
time in schools and then be guaranteed transfer of their skills back to a wide range of other careers.

Perhaps short-service commissions might stop the Government from having to dictate the agenda for everything taught in schools and let that agenda be dictated by the customers. Indeed, the increased communication between sectors might mean that schools started to understand what industry needs and industry might learn what schools can reasonably be asked to provide. It might mean that language skills match what business and the country needs and that English lessons resuscitate grammar, and that information technology skills serve the needs of employers, not the whims of the pupils. Above all, such a scheme would mean that more postgraduates would en-ter education because it would be seen as an excellent starting point for any one of a number of careers, and not as a vocational cul-de-sac.

Far more people would be lured into

teaching because the relevance of its skills base, and hence its credibility and respectability, would be re-established af-ter years in the doldrums. For employers, it would mean a steady flow of staff whose skills had been tempered in the furnace of the school and classroom, in one of the most answerable and demanding professions in the world.

• The author is Head of The Grange



### Bullimore's yen for adventure survives intact

BY EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

TONY BULLIMORE used to be a successful yachtsman, though not particularly well known outside the rarefied world of international multihuli racing. Then, two years ago, he was plucked from the Southern Ocean by the Australian Navy and life has never been the same for the former nightclub owner from

Given the extraordinary circumstances of his rescue and his remarkable instinct for survival, it is not surprising that Bullimore has had difficulty putting the episode behind him. In the past 18 months he has given talks, written a book and helped to make documentaries about his experiences. He has had to put up with peo-ple assuming that he has made millions out of it — he has not and the much-hyped sponsorship by a chocolate manufacturer never happened - and he admits that he is

growing weary of it. At the tender age of 60, what he wants above all is to be taken seriously as a yachtsman and he has thrown himself headlong into his most ambitious project to date with the purchase of the old Nigel Irens-designed catamaran, Royal & SunAlliance, formerly the round-the-world recordbreaker, ENZA New Zealand.

It is a project aimed at rewriting records, including the Jules Verne non-stop roundthe-world time, and entering The Race, the non-stop roundthe-world dash for unlimited boats that starts in December

This is not going to be easy sailing but Bullimore is up for it, untroubled it seems by ghosts returning to haunt him from the icy waters 1,000 miles southwest of Fremantie, Bullimore says that his appetite for the big time is "exactly the same" as it ever was and, when he walks on ENZA's hulls, he gets the same thrill as he always did from a multi-

"I'm still smoking and I'm desperate to give it up," Bulli-more said. "But I'm nowhere near my age. I feel great. I can hack it with people a lot young-er than me — running, jump-

ing. I'm all right."

The big cat is at present on the hard at Redcliffe Wharf in Bristol where she is being tented over before a substantial programme of modifications, which include adding eight feet to the bows and fitting a new, bigger wingmast. The aim is to make the boat, which was originally launched in 1983 as the 80ft Formula TAG, as competitive as possible at a time when an unknown number of huge catamarans are being constructed for The



Bullimore has grown weary of reliving his Southern Ocean rescue and longs to be taken seriously as a yachtsman

sett's 105ft PlayStation, has been completed and it is far from certain how many more will be built. It is for this reason that Bullimore and Irens dismiss those who argue that the old ENZA is yesterday's

Irens believes that the extra length in the hulls and power in the rig could lift her average potential speed in the Southern Ocean from around 18 knots to possibly 24 knots and he is confident his "old war-horse" still has a competitive

"The new era is so indeterminate at the moment," Irens said. "We don't know what these new boats are going to do, which ones are going to get out and which ones are going to break down when they do get out. What Tony's boat represents, assuming he does the work, is a good standard entry or a benchmark. Someone may well go faster in a new boat but Tony's boat is a known quantity that can only be improved."

Bullimore is no stranger to risk-taking, either on the water or off it. But he has spent £400,000 buying ENZA and the project has already swallowed up another £100,000. Now he needs a commercial backer to help him pay for the work and the camign. There are three interested parties and he is confident that one of them will sign by the end of February.

However, if he cannot find a sponsor, there are three other syndicates, including one in France, that are prepared to buy the project from him. They believe that Bullimore's cut-price approach to The Race could well be the way ahead. But the ever-optimistic Bullimore is hoping it won't come to that.

The thing is," he said, "I've got no doubts we will do well in this boat. Nigel has made it clear to me that, with all the modifications we are doing, we are actually taking her into the 21st century, ready to



Krylova and Ovsiannikov perform their original dance in Prague yesterday

### Russian pair on brink of winning elusive title

ANJELIKA KRYLOVA and Oleg Ovsiannikov strength-ened their position as the leading eligible ice dancers in the world yesterday by winning the second round of the ice dance competition at the European figure skating championships.

The three-times champions of Russia skated in a manner belitting the holders of the Olympic silver and world gold medals and are on course to claim their first European title when the competition concludes tonight with the free dance. Krylova, 25, and Ovsiannik-

ov, 29, have spent much of their career in the shadow of another Russian couple,

FROM ANGELA COURT IN PRAGUE.

Pasha Grishuk and Yevgeni Platov, the two-time Olympic gold medal-winners, who have turned professional and dissolved their partnership.

Although Krykova and Ovsiannikov came close, they never defeated them, having to settle for silver at three European championships, two world championships and the 1998 Olympic Games.

Yesterday, in the original dance section of the competition, their waltz, performed to The Drinking Song from La Traviata, and sung by Pavarotti, contained textbook. skating and strong artistry.

Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat, the Olympic bronze medal-winners from France, are second. Their free dance to The Man in the Iron Mask soundtrack is quite spectacular and likely to be one of the highlights of the entire championships. Iri-

na Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh, from Russia, are third. Charlotte Clements and Gary Shortland, the British champions, skated a dreamy, lilting waltz without significant errors and held on to fourteenth place.

The women skate their short programmes this afternoon Maria Butyrskaya, from Russia, remains the favourite for gold.

### may join believes England her time on tour

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

SOUTH Africa may join England on their tour of Argentina at the end of March to set up a three-nation series at three different venues. Barry Dancer, the England

coach, explained yesterday that the South Africans are committed to a home series against a side from the Australian Institute of Sports, but are boping to bring these matches forward so as to be free for the

in the National League pre-mier division. Teddington's line-up at home to Cannock on Sunday includes Jon Hauck, who scored all their goals in a 54 victory over Old Loughtonians. Neil Campling, the Teddington manager, said. "For the first time this season, we were at full strength. We now expect to upset a few more lead-ing teams." Cannock report no injury problems. Except for Peter Riley, the

defender, who is on a weekend commitment with St George's Weybridge, Guildford can call on all of their best players for the home match against Can-terbury, the league leaders Southgate, having solved most of their injury problems. most of their injury problems, are taking a squad strong enough to meet the challenge by Beeston, who hope to lift themselves back into fourth position, above Reading Their ambition is unlikely to be achieved for Reading are on a visit to Brooklands, who are still languishing at the bottom of the table. Bast Grunstead, who beat Brooklands 9-1 last week, visit Hoimslow, whose relegation wornes have not yet eased.

Surbiton, with Greg Nicol, the South African centre forward, back in their ranks. are pushing fervently towards the top of the first division, but they seem unlikely to displace Barford Tigers, who should take full points from Indian Gwylchana Gymkhana.

Doncaster and Havant contique their chase to finish on too, but the matter will not end there. The champions will have to play off against the tenth-placed team in the premier division to decide the last place in the restructured

premier division next season.

### S Africa Bollington has come

By Cathy Harris

LYNN BOLLINGTON H played for Chelmsford for 23 years and although the dub have come close to capturing the national indoor league title on several occasions, they have never triumphed. This weekend, in the play-offs at Crystal Palace, Bollington is

determined to change that.
The former England outdoor international and captain of the indoor side believes
that few would begrudge the Essex chub me honour. She said: "We've always played well, in the right spirit, and taken it seriously. We have edged closer and closer, just missing out to Slough last sea-SUIL It's about time we won."

She acknowledges that competition in the round-robin event will be tough, especially, against Slough, the holders and Hightown, the former champions, but remains confident. She said: "We have managed some good practice sessions and are playing well as a unit, our main strength."

With the English Hockey Association's continued failure to secure sponsorship deals, preparations have proved expensive. The botel bill for the qualifying week-end cost Chelmsford £700 and Bollington, 37, confirmed that a two-hour training session in an indoor hall costs £100. She said: "It makes it difficult to practise - we end up on various surfaces, in various venues at various times."

The good news is that Lorraine Marsden, the former England indoor and outdoor international, could make her first appearance for the club this season after recovering from ithess. "She's just the sort of player you want on the bench. Her presence would really boost our chances,"

In Prague, the England Under-21 indoor team open their campaign in the Europe-an Nations Cup against Slova-kia today. However, one has to question the wisdom of spending more than £20,000 to send a poorly prepared twelve-strong squad, accompa-nied by eight officials, to a

### FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL
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ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL: Kings-mead: South Africa 274-9 (50 overs, L klusener 64, W J Crone 58; C L Hooper 4-52, West Index 519 (43.1 overs, 5 Chand-erpaul 52). South Africa beat West Indies by Tour match

Central Districts Emerging Players v England Under-19 PALMERSTON NORTH first day of three). Central Districts Emerging Players, with three first-mangs wickets in hand, are level with England Under-19

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FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-8, 3-23, 4-39, 5-57, 6-104, 7-119. Whitey 14-8-24-3; Tucker Haywood 2-0-8-0, Symingson Bridge 12-4-32-0; Dawson

FOOTBALL

Vednesday's late results WORTHINGTON CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Totenham 0 Wimbledon 0 FA CUP: Fourth round: Sheff Utd 4 Cardiff A CUPT Poerts round: Shell Utd 4 Carder (Shell Utd away to Arsenal). COTTISK PREMIER LEAGUE: Dundee 0 Rangers 4. SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Third christon: Ber-

work 2 Ross County 2.

FA TROPHY: Third round: Snepsted D1

Emiley 1 Third-round implayer: Enfield 0

Hitchiri 1, Hednestord 2 Colwyn Bay 2 (act;

1-1 effer 90min; Colwyn Bay war 5-4 on bers)

1-1 efter Sürnir, Colwyri Bay war 5-4 on peris)
PETER BEARDSLEY TESTENONDAL MATCH: Newcastle XI 1 Celbc 3.
PONTWYS LEAGUE: Prevaler division: Surderland i Lwerpool to Manchester Underland i Lwerpool to Manchester Versien I Forderland A Vork 2 Halfax I Group three: West Bromwich I Transvers I, Group abu Locaster 2 Notes County I, Bradword 3 Sourthroppe 0. Transmera I, Group site, Loosaler 2 Notis County 1, Bradford 3 Southbrope 0.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bourramouth 1 Barnet 2.

Carthodge 3 Gillingham C, Colchester 3 Portsmouth 1, Reading 1 Lopauch 2; Wycombe 1 Southampton 2.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: St Halens 4 Cheadle 1.

SCHWEPPES ESSENGR LEAGUE: Eton Manor 0 East Ham 2.

28/1

28/1

28/1 28/1 28/1 28/1 28/1 28/1 28/1 28/1

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 2 Phey LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 2 Phey-seder 1: Cortwy 2 Rhyl 1.
FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier thylsion: Shelbourne 1 Dundals 2.
THE THISES FA YOUTH CUP. Third round: Watford 4 Rombod 0. Fourth round: Blackburn 1 Shelf Uld 2 Newcastie 0 Chebra 0.
BELGIAN LEAGUE: Standard Liège 2 Gent A.

Gork 4.
TTALIAN LEAGUR: Courter-Roals, sec-ond log: Perma 4 Lidinese 0 (Parme win 6-3 on agg): Internationale 5 Lazo 2 (Internaz-onale win 6-4 on agg).

WEST PALM BEACH, Floridat LPGA Office Depot Chasics Leading first-round scores (Linked States unless stated: 67:1) intester, K Webb (Aus.) 8th T Gener, K Robbers, M Redmart. 8th K Tochetter, L Neumann (Swe), J Crafter [Aus.), K Albers, L Dobos (Pau). 7th P Sheshan, D Richard, D Pepper, C McCurdy, 8 King, T Johnson (GB), C Nismark (Swe), L Lindley, L Kane (Carl, S Strudmick (GB), Se-IP Pirk (S Kof), A Nicholas (GB), M Lunn (Aus.), M Hirsescon (Swe) Otter stores 72 C Natthew (GB). 7th L Hackney (GB), H Dobson (GB).

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA, SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Eagles 1 Cardill Davils 2. NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Florida 2 Mon-tred 11; Dales 3 Los Angeles 2: Edmonton 3 Chicago 4 (OT); Anaham 3 Colorado 4 RUGBY UNION

WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A: Camphily 0 Edinburgh Revers 64, Pon-typind 63 Georga 7, Pool 8: Bridgerd 10 Gasgow Caredoniens 8. CLUB MATCH: Oxford University 12 Rich-mond 99.

SNOOKER

CARDEFF: Regal Welsh Open (England un-less stated). Second round: R O'Sullivan bt J White 5-2: P Endon to M Desk 5-0, J High-ghrs (Scot) bt P Sweeny 5-3, J Wattara (Pta) bt D Taylor (N Ire) 5-2: J Sweel (N Ire) bt N Sond 5-3. A McMarus (Scot) bt M Fr (HK) 5-4. Taind round: S Hendry (Scot) bt M Se-vens (Males) 5-4; S Bingham bt Higgers 5-4 S Daves bt F O'Brien (Ire) 5-0; Wastana bt P Wellace (Ire) 5-2.

SQUASH NEW YORK: Tournstated of Champione: Send-Brain: J Power (Can) bt P Nicol (Scot) 15-10, 15-4, 15-5; A Barada (Epypi) bt P John-son (Eng) 15-10, 7-15, 17-14, 14-17, 15-8.

MELBOURNE: Australian Oper: Merr. Sto-glas: Semi-Boat: T Engvis (Sive) bit N Lap-erth (Ed. 6-3, 7-5, 6-1 Dombles: Semi-nate: M Ehupath (India) and L Paes (India) br E Ferierra (SA) and R Leach (US) 7-6, 6-3, 7-6: J Bjortman (Sive) and P Rather (Paus) bit Stockherber (Men) and M Microfileria (Men)

#### SPORT IN BRIEF Smith-de Bruin will not have her appeal against a

four-year suspension heard until May 3, the Court of Arbitration for Sport said esterday. A decision on the Irish triple Olympic champion's case was expected this month, but the

four-month time limit to hear the appeal will be extended because of difficulties in bringing all parties together. Smith-de Bruin was found guilty of tampering with her urine sample in an out-ofcompetition drugs test and banned by Fina, swimming's

world governing body. M SQUASH: Jonathon Power, the world champion from Canada, beat Peter Nicol, the world No I from Scotland, 15-10, 15-4, 15-5 in the, semi-finals of the

Tournament of Champions in New York yesterday. In the final, he will meet Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, the world No 3, who defeated Paul Johnson, of England, 15-10. 7-15, 17-14, 14-17, 15-8.

M RUSSY LEAGUE: London Broncos officials have been ordered to pay outstanding money from gate receipts to Halifax Blue Sox and Hull Kingston Rovers after apparently short-changing their opponents during the Chailenge Cup last season. Both Yorkshire clubs claimed to have received lower than expected receipts from their

shared gates at The Stoop Memorial Ground. ROWING: Continued rain and a swollen river has caused the Hampton Schools Head to move from its usual course at Molesey tomorrow. The organisers have

rescheduled the race on the Tideway at 2.45pm over a course from the London University boathouse to Chiswick Eyot Hampton's first eight lead off as the 1998 winners, chased by St Paul's and Westminster.

#### SOLUTION TO BOXING DAY, TIMES TWO JUMBO

ACROSS: 1 Chain-smoker 7 Assign 10 Friction 16 Cypnot 17 Lobster 18 Alf-American 19 A Michammer Night's Dream 20 Office 21 Outscore 23 Mega 24 Shapelessness 27 Beam 28 Hard-boiled eggs 30 Frolic 34 Metric system 35 Postmillennial 37 Deputes 30 Research 40 Rhimocerus 43 Take to wide 45 Tassaniah 45 Scruptly 48 Collector's term 49 Reinvigorans 27 Tritin 35 Indirect object 54 Sack 57 Legadopteris 60 Fowl 61 Forsymen 61 Centin 84 Winsdom will never come to September 15 Sack 57 Legadopteris 60 Fowl 69 Implied 70 Side dish 71 Asides 72 Ghost-water DOWN: 1 Codestro 1 Apparament 17 Natio 4 Metaphorphous 5 Kilter 6 Robes Rothress 7 Astignatic 8 Strains 9 Grandparents 11 Remember 12 Carinasser and curlosser 13 Indirect 44 Nonsortead 15 Fixe 2 Come and the garden, Matal 25 English Channel 26 Cross-reference 29 Exorcis: 31 Leatron 32 Amidst 33 Chm 30 Bathress 38 Pikelet 44 Syried 42 Divisiovences 38 Cytologists 50 Accessments 51 Staffaness 55 Upsatings 56 Engeruler 39 Praised 59 Test bod 62 Next to 66 Nits 66 Caper

### SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

#### By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent.

Begin Bridge with The Times: Lesson 41 - Responding Round-up
We have now covered all the basic responses to opening bids at the one level so here is a quiz to test your understanding. What would you respond to your partner's One Heart open-

	,		0	-				
(A)		KJ105	(B)		KQ43	(C)	4	KJ1065
	Q	5432		۵	43		Q	98
	Q	AQ5		0	QJ1072		<b>O</b>	AK1085.
	÷	76		¥	76		4	3
<b>(D)</b>	•	Q4	(E)	4	K 103	(F)	•	6543
	Ø	K43		۵	KJ2		Ø	
	0	J1076		٥	KJ107		Ó	AKQ876
	٠	Q 10 6 5		#	K87			43

With Hand (A) raise to Three Hearts. You have found an eight-card fit so there is no need to bid your spades. On Hand (B) you don't have enough to bid at the two level so start with One Spade. Hand (C) is not a trick question. Just start with One Spade. On Hand (D), with 8 HCP, you don't have enough to bid at the two level but you can't support partner with only three cards, so start with One No-Trump. Hand (E) is perfect for an immediate jump to Three No-Trumps. On Hand (E) I would bid Two Discount to the No-Trumps. Hand (F) I would bid Two Diamonds and then rebid Three Diamonds if partner bid Two Hearts. Sometimes we might miss a 4-4 spade fit but it goes against the grain not to bid

There are just a couple of refinements we have not yet covered.

4411	-	would y	ou respond i	io y	our parmer	s Que (		o obemu	g
		Q43	(H)	4.	Q43	m.	4	J48 -	
		K43			K43		Ø	98	
	Ŷ	J1076	<del>}</del>	<b>Q</b>	KJ 107		٥	Q 10 7 6	
	*	763		4	763			K643	
72.		i							

There is a convention that a One No-Trump response to a One Club opening shows 8-10 HCP, slightly more than over other openings. This is because you must have an alternative. If you had a four-card suit other than clubs you could bid it: whereas if you had four clubs you could raise partner's suit. So with Hand (G) respond One Diamond, with Hand (H) respond One No-Trump (it is better to make a descriptive limit bid if you can) and with Hand (1) raise to Two Clubs, a response which denies a good four-card major suit.

Dyou can get any lesson you may have missed from this beginners' course by sending two 26p stamps per lesson (or five stamps per set of five) to Sally Brock, 73 Totteridge Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7QA. Don't forget to state which ones you want. □Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in

Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

#### WORD-WATCHING By Philip Howard

AGATHISM a. Morbid fear of aunts b. Things are getting better Allergy to sugar

BREVET 2. The young weasel b. A message c. A lateral drain

AGEE a. An elderly woman

b. A nightcap c. Crooked BELGARD a. A lower. b. A loving look c. An arrow stit Answers on page 54



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kramnik wins

One of the most dangerous players in the Wijk aan Zee tournament is Vladimir Kramnik, the Russian grandmaster: Kramnik is distinguished by an excellent score against Kasparov himself over their many encounters. In today's game Kramnik defeats Alexander Yermolinsky, a former Russian player who now repre-sent the United States.

White V Kramnik Black: A Yermolinsky Wiik aan Zee 1999 Nimzo-Indian Defence

0€2 Bg5 63 d6 **b6** 0-0-0 Bc6 Ng6 Qd7 NAS Ing5 Nd5 Qe7 Nc7 gĜ Que4 Kxf7 Bh5+

38 . 39 a4 Rg6 Nd5 Ne3 Diagram of final position

Carrom

lar in India but fast growing in the UK. It combines elements of chess and billiards. Leading results in the UK Open Carrom Championship were: 1, Kamai Abedin, 2, Saleh Ahmed, 3. Nazrul Islam.

Carrom is a board game popu-

Wijk aan Zee website The Wijk aan Zee games can be followed on chess2.lostcity.nl/hoogovens/

Keene online You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions will be published here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

Times book The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzies from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Bassford Ltd (tel. 01797 369966 at £6.99 plus post-

age and packing). Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Priday in Sport and in the Weekend sec-

tion on Saturday...

#### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

37 - Rod6

White to play. This position is from the game Szabo Donner, Goteborg, 1955. The black king seems very well defended by the bishop pair, but White now proved that this is not the case. Can you see how?





DOMCASTER RACECOURSE SPEAKING IN

The state of the s

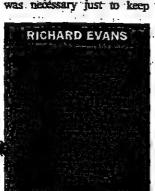
FOR WHAT WONICES HISPANIE

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 29 1999

RACING: FORMER HUNTER CHASER ENTERS FESTIVAL PLOT AFTER IMPRESSIVE WINCANTON PERFORMANCE

### Double Thriller joins Gold Cup suspects

AS IN all the best thrillers, the big question will not be answered until the closing pages. out the plot certainly thick-ned in intriguing fashion at Vincanton yesterday. For af-the bludgeoning his rivals out of the way on his first run for Paul Nicholls. Double Thriller now finds himself among the leading suspects for both the Tote Cheltenham Gold: Cup and Martell Grand National. In beating four inferiors by a distance under top weight in the Racing Channel Handicap Chase Double Thriller achieved as much or as little as



such aspirations alive. More significant, perhaps, was the status as the only horse to have beaten Teeton Mill under Rules. His brawny physique, agile jumping and tireless gallop must now be incor-porated into the teasing web of evidence surrounding their encounter in a hunter chase at

Section 2

Company of the second

The State of the

Cheltenham last April. . The bookmakers are certainly taking a positive view. The Gold Chip sponsor cut him 1 from 40.1 to 16-1, while he is as short as 12-1 for Aintree with Ladbrokes. Joe Tizzard, his.

SETTING S-1 AN Econo, 7-2 Woodfield Gale, 7-1 Landbersichaettent, 8-1 Forest Tryan, Professor Crof., 16-1 Andro-sa, 20-1 Mediandhrit, 25-1 others.

1998: SAMERIE WILDERSPIN 6-11-0 R Johnson (15-8 ter) D Nicholson 18 cm.

All Comp beat Broadcard Siri in 18-runner covice burdless Domester (2m. 110-d, ghad): previously 2014 Am of 5 to Nico) Read in envice hardes grade 1 in Newtoney 2014 M of 5 to Nico) Read in envice hardes grade 1 in Newtoney Com 57, god). Whooffeld Gate heat Grooving 61 in Secondary Com 67, god 10 to 100, Read Income 10 to 100, Read Income

ALL COMG is preferred to Woodstand Gallo with the legion leavily suited by pileuty of give rederition

2.05 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB NOVICES

301 000-11 SMEEP GENTLY S4 (D.S.S) (I Heartnings) Mas 5 Smith 7-11-12 S Duracis 57
302 025-11 MATINE CHARMA 29 03.6.51 (Red Med Partners) C Montred 7-11-7 J.J.A. McCastrly 124
303 2401-1 WHYNTHED KRIGHT 53 (D.S.S) (St. Jose Hell) Mas M. Brently 7-11-6 P. Belley 124
304 01-244 CRICIES STATA 50 (BF.C.) (S. (Biographies, D) Nacching 6-11-0 A Magnetic 125
305 54-142 DAM DE MAN 48 (BF.D.G.S) (D Prodies Partnersing) Mass I. Sothing 6-11-0 A Double

1996: CLASSY LAD 8-11-0 M in Fitogrado (5-1) in Handurson 8 cm

Serving Generaly head Extends About 291 on 6-manuer movine object of the International Processing Section (2011) 10 (4) heavy), provincely treat into All The Tips 3447 in 8-manuer movine classes at which classes at whether these they can produce place at the Tips (30-4) to 300). Notice 12 on 4-consect consists and address of the transfer of the section of the

Wins Rus %
4 15 26.7
8 35 22.9
6 24 20.6
5 31 16.0
8 50 16.0

The County has not been goodshed to win her last two starts and can bring up the half-trick

-BETTANCS; 2-4 Makes Chapter, 3-1 Circus Star, 7-2 Wywysod Rnight, 5-1 Sweetp Georly, 6-1 Dan De Mass.

1998: CLASSY LAD 8-11-0 M A Fitografic (5-1) N Handerson & ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

CHASE (£4.232: 2m 110yd) (5 runners)

A MARCH 13 30.4 15 20.6 15 20.6 17 21.6 18 20.6 19 20.6 10 2

1998: SAMBJEL WILDERSPIN 6-11-Q R Johnson (15-8 tex) D Nicholson 18 cm



ened of his seniors if See More Business, also trained by Nicholls, revives his own Gold Cup claims in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday. Robert Thornton, who rode

teenage jockey, could face a a treble for Nicholls at Kemp-riches choice to puzzle the most wiz -ton last weekend; will doubt- ary II. less be especially curious to learn his colleague's decision, while the talented Earthmover, another of last season's top hunters, could compound the

Double Thriller carries the colours of Reg. Wilkins, who enjoyed such success with Double Silk. We've got the facilities and the time, while Reg was training him more for stables embatrassment of

fun," Nicholls said. "He did very well with him and gave him a good grounding. He's been very exciting at home and I've been nervous about today, because when you think you've a good horse you want him to look a star on the track.

E E CENTRAL E

1.15 Legendary Lover. 1.50 Fanfaron, 2.25

Perioct Fellow, 3.00 Caracol, 3.35 Selatan, 4.10

"He will come on for the run, because he was held up with coughing over Christ-mas, and he has only done four bits of work since. This ground would have been tacky enough for him, too. He's learning all the time. He has

only won a handicap off 129 here, so realistically he still

has a long way to go."

An intimidating presence in the paddock, Double Thriller was fresh and keen in the early stages and Tizzard let him imp into the lead at the ninth. Having got away with flying a couple of fences and shortening nimbly into one or two others, basically he was running away throughout. Tizzard took a look over his shoulder leaving the back straight and could coast clear of the least ex-hausted of his pursuers, Mal-

wood Castle. "He jumped for fun and did it all on the bridle," Tizzard said. "He was very good for a big horse when he got in close. He's a big, long-striding horse but he'd have gears as well." The next chapter for Double Thriller will be the Jim Ford Chase back at Wincanton on February 25, by which time the National weights will have been published.

In the interim, punters will be poring over his defeat of Teeton Mill, since successful in the Hennessy Gold Cup and the King George VI Chase, shortly after the grey had joined Venetia Williams. There are those who believe that Teeton Mill, so impressive on flat tracks this season, faltered up the Cheltenham hill that day. Either way, it appears rather more forgivable to have been outstayed by Double Thriller after yesterday.

There was a contrasting ig-nominy to another comeback when Wither Or Which dropped tamely away in a maiden hurdle at Gowran Park, his first start since winning the 1996 Cheltenham Festival Bumper. His jumping, naive to start with, became steadily worse and he faded 'quickly from the third last.

3.00 SIX MILE BOTTOM HANDICAP HURDLE

3.35 NEWINGTON PEEME HANDICAP CHASE

1 143- MYSTIC ISLE 278 (B.CD.S) M Groden 9-12-0 J R Kavermon 9780 2 011U SHAMAGORE WARROOK 71 (S) 5 Meller 7-11-4 \_C Westo 77 2 254 SELATAN 9 (S.S.) D Gandoro 7-10-13 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_6 Brandey 110 4 -QPS HOLLY STING 11 (D.S.) J De Glen 10-10-4 \_\_\_\_\_\_45

4.10 WEST WOOD STANDARD OPEN HATIONAL

6-4 Isoniyane, 2-1 Lightney Strikes, 7-2 Toron, 16-1 Wee Swity, 20-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 

TRANSTRS: Miss V Winters, 4 winners from 9 russers, 44.4%; C Egenton, 3 from 9, 33.3%, J Modife, 4 knrs 15, 25.0%, Mrs D Haire, 4 knrs 17, 23.5%, T McGovers, 4 knrs 18, 22.2%, M Pipe, 6 knrs 31, 19.4%.

4-1 Masteri, 5-1 Sudi, Christery, 6-1 Kingstip Boy, 8-1 Incepts, 12-1 Mustadets, 14-1 Chikiz, Hyperics, 16-1 others.

HUNT FLAT RACE (\$1,458; 2m 1f 110yd) (9)

(£2,846: 3m 2l) (4)

Hi Hedley rescues lost cause at last

THE victory of Hi Hedley in the Hinchingbrook Novices' Chase at Huntingdon yesterday proved once again that there is no such thing as a lost cause in National Hunt

He seemed booked for third with four fences to jump as King Pin and Sursum Corda disputed the lead. King Pin had taken the measure of Sursum Corda at the second last, but, with the race in his pocket, refused at the final fence.

Sursum Corda also ground to a halt at the obstacle and Hi Hedley, who had slowly been clawing back the deficit, nipped through under Michael Brennan to gain the unlikeliest of victories.

Chris Kinane, assistant to Hi Hedley's owner-trainer, Geoff Hubbard, said: "We deserved a change of luck. Michael said they had set off far too quickly and felt he would have finished second anyway. The horse was brave to go through that little gap.

He could have turned it in Tonoco, trained by Sue Smith and ridden by Seamus Durack, maintained his 100 per cent hurdling record with a fluent display in the EBF Novices' Hurdle.

#### YESTERDAY'S

1.50 (3m ch) 1, 18 feddley (Michael Brenna, 25-1); 2, Bright Flame (14-1). Sursum Cords 7-4 lbw. 7 ran 18 G Hubbard Tote 23 10; £4.70, £3.40 DF £56.50 CSF; £248.22.

225.82 CSP: 100.28. 2.20 (2m 110yd hole) 1, Tomoco (S Du-acci, 2-7 fas; Thunderer and Richard Evenet's map); 2, Bacchard (11-1), 3, Stone's Throw (B-1), 10 no. 114, 241 Mrs S Smith, Tota; (11-4), £1.10, (2.60, £1.20. DF (SS20, CSF: £4.83.

4.20 (2m 110)/d field 1, Devil's Advocate (F-3-Murphy, 4-7 fev); 2, Romen Lord (12-1), 3, Dramdoran (16-1), 21 ran. 5, 21 M Pamar Tote 51.80; £1 10, £2.70, £3.10, DF, £13.20, CSF, £10.27,

Wincanton

Going: good to soft 1.40 (2m hcts) 1, Fayez (A P McCoy, 8-4 fay); 2, Zuyer (6-1); 3, Afegiance (16-1) 7 en. 10, 11, K Moskiffe, Tote £2 30; £1.30, £4.90, DF: £10.50 CSF: £10 84 2.10 (2m sic or) 1, Andersteph (G Shadey, 9-2); 2, Holdimolose (100-30); 3, Waymiete (5-1), Double Tempo (3-8 fax; 7 ran 17, 8 5 Sherwood Tote: 62 co; 63.10, 61 70 DF: £14.50 CSF: \$18.99.

2.40 (2m hdie) 1, Kino's Cross, (Mr R For-riste) 13-2); 2, Krabisonali (3-1 kay), 3, Mangkano (7-2), 7 ran. 1, 21. A J Wilson. Tote: E8 20: C3.10, 52.20 DF. C11 00 CSF C25 72.

25 72 3.10 [3rn 1! 110yd ch] 1. Double Thriller (J Tazard, 4-5 tav); 2, Malwood Castle (9-2); 3. Sherb Command (10-1) 5 ren Dos, 6. F. Nichols, Toler 21.70; 21 40, 21 50 DF: £3 50 CSF-£4 50. 3.40 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1. Dancedifyoutrop (Mr S Stronge, 5-2), 2. Rocky Park (12-1), 3. Bore Hell (5-4 fav), 7 ran. 2, 30. P. Nichols Tota, 12-70, £1 70, £5.00 DF: 22-90, CSF £26.01 522.90. CSF 528.01.
4.10 [2m 6] hotel 1, Selbe The Day (Mss. M Coombe, 7-1); 2, Betmore Rock [2-1 tax]; 3, Surmes Special (12-1), 12 ran, MS Pontevedra 14, 11, M Coombe, Tote 57.70; 52.30, 52.10, 53.20. DF 525.20 Tote Tridecting 643.40, CSF: 522.37 The cost: £168.13

Piacapot: £143.50. Quadpot: £20.10. Lingfield Park

Going: standard cast (361.8) 1. Palacagaia Touch (P Bradley, 5-4 ls/d, 2. Heavenly Miss (12-1); 3, Nors Deed (4-1) 10 ran 174, 21 J Berry Tote F1-90; 71.20, 62.10, 51.60 DF: 511.20 CSF £19.24

CSP £19.24 2.30 (1m) 1, Air of Esteem (Dele Gioson, 9-4 p-lav) 2, Murmoon (9-4 p-lav), 3, Woolly Winsome (3-1), 6 ran, 1-1, 1 P Heslam Tote: £3.10, £1.80, £1.60, DF £5.60 CSF-£7.80

3.00 (1m) 1, Lyclan (S Whiteorth, 7-4 by). 2. Teoflic (14-1): 3, Priors Moor (7-1): 12 ran. 11, 61, J Toler, Tore. 62 70, 51 20. 53 70, 53 70 DF: 514.10 CSF 532.19. To-cast 514 79 Cast: 1,147 39
3.30 (1m 4f) 1, Space Race (G Faulkher, 14-1); 2, Fields of Omegn (evers lav), 3, Denoing Rio (4-1), 6 ran, 114, 2, C Cycer 7ote: 223 70, 26 60, 21 10 DF 66 70, CSF 225 80

125 80 (1m 2f) 1, Coemerton Bey (Mr / Mon-gan, 5-2 fav); 2, Clonce (5-1), 3, Grooms Gold (8-1), 13 ran 2: J. nk. Gl. Moore. Tole 54.30; 22-40, 52.00, 52.90 DF: 515.00. CSF £15.31, Tricast £88.81 Jackpot: not won (pool of £3,518.26 car-ried forward to Doncaster today).

SPECIALISTS (

SOUTHWELL: Trainers. Miss S Wilton. 10 winners from 32 numers, 31.3% M Prescott, 24 from 78, 30.8%, Mest. 3 from 11, 27.3%, JELS-tese, 4 from 17, 25.5%, J Aksturst, 4 from 22, 18.2%, P Hestern, 22 from 121, 18.2%, T Baron, 23 from 128, 16.7%, G Ryan, 24 from 144, 16.7%; P Howling, 9 from 57, 15.8% Jockeys: C. Vigors. S. emmas. nom 6 ides. 83.3%; R. Fibratrick 6 from 17, 35.3%; S. Bosley, 4 from 24, 16.7%; R. Clark. 5 from 30, 16.7%; R. Cocksane, 20 from 139, 14.4%; R. Havin, 4 from 28, 14.3%; P. McCabe, 18 from 126, 14.3%, D. Jones, 6 from 44, 13.5%; D. Swenney, 7. Ann 131, 13.0%, C. Lowther, 17 from 132, 12.9%.

RACELINE 09066 168+ COMMENIANI | DONCASTER | 101 | 201 | FOLKESTONE | 102 | 202 | SOUTHWELL | 103 | 203 | FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

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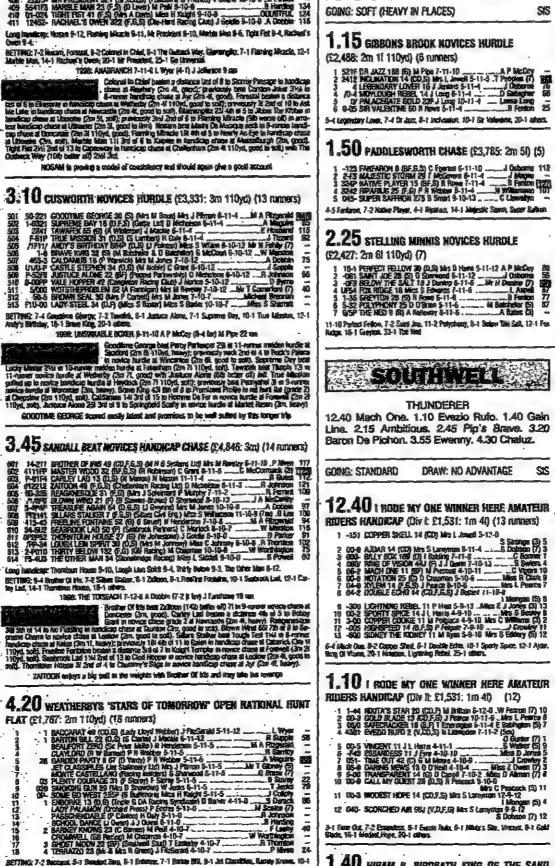
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5-1 Steep Scoots, 11-2 Forest Robin, 7-1 Time Of Nects, 6-1 Line Project, Pleasure Trick, Gen Line, 10-1 Cheertal Stroom, Kass Albana, 12-1 offers.

### Vaughan digs in to rescue position

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN KWEKWE

KWEKWE (third day of four): England A, with nine secondinnings wickets in hand, are 111 runs behind the ZCU President's XI

DOUR, determined and correct, Michael Vaughan offered England A a passage to safety as the President's XI struggled to continue their dominance at the Kwekwe Sports Club. In the face of a 226-run firstinnings deficit, and the best part of five sessions remaining, Vaughan batted for nearly four hours over an unbeaten 69, an innings that has gone a long way to redeeming the profligacy of their batting on the opening day.
Each and every run to

which Andy Flower and the President XI's tail had helped themselves in the morning would have driven home the folly of their carefree strokeplay on Tuesday.

On this occasion, Vaughan and Robert Key were able to build a planform from which the match should be saved but not without considerable slices of luck. Vaughan edged consecutive deliveries from Bernard Pswarayi for boundaries -- both at shoulder height either side of third slip -- and Key touched the same, luck-less bowler to the wicketkeeper soon after, only for the umpire to signal a no-ball.

When Key eventually fell leg-before, pushing forward to Dan Peacock, the opening part-nership had reached 70, at barely more than two runs an

Mal Loye dusted down the cobwebs with a straight six off Peacock but then settled down, rarely troubled by a bowling attack that lacked bite.

The England bowling was markedly more disciplined, but Andy Flower patiently took his overnight century on to 194 before running out of partners shortly after lunch. A brief cameo of 44 from 38 balls from Gus MacKay broke up the bowlers' rhythm before Jason Lewry returned to capture the last two wickets.

ENGLAND A; First Innings 267 (M G N Windows 69, A Flintoff 61).

Second innings
R W T Key low b Peacock...
"M P Vaughan not out......
M B Loye not out......
Extras (to 1, nb 5)

BOWLING: MacKey 6-3-13-0; Pawarey 10-2-33-0; Mixangwe 12-5-13-0; G W Flower 5-0-9-0; Peacock 15-3-34-1; Viljoen 8-6-4-0; Goodwin 3-1-8-0.

PRESIDENT'S XI: First brings W Flower b Thomas G W Flower b Thomas 15u
M W Goodwin e Windows b Thomas 13
A Flower not cut. 194
D F Vigeon run out. 194
D F Jesock e and b Cosker 1
D J Peacock e and b Cosker 5
A J MacKay e Read b Swarm 44
M Mbangwa blw b Lewny 4
B W S Paweray b Lewny 0
Extras (to 17, w 3, nb 9) 29

Extras (to 17, w 3, nb 9) 29

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-96, 3-211, 4-351, 5-254, 5-364, 7-404, 3-463, 9-491 SORTHING Levey 12-3-45-3, Harmson 24-7-71-0, Coster 39-4-13-3, Swann 37-3-116-1; Thomas 25-4-73-2 Flamoif 7-0-17-0 Windows 20-7-0, Vaughan 2-0-12-0.

#### CRICKET: INDIA SEIZE CONTROL ON ENTERTAINING OPENING DAY OF HISTORIC TEST WITH PAKISTAN



Although the security presence was high-profile, the opening day of the first Test between India and Pakistan for nine years passed without incident. Photograph: D. Krishnan

### Kumble provides six of the best

MADRAS (first day of five: Pakistan won toss): India, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 190 runs behind

A NEW era dawned yesterday as India and Pakistan, the fiercest of rivals, broke from the torpor of meetings past in a dashing resumption of Test competition. The game has evolved over the nine years since these countries last met over five days and an appreciative crowd of around 35,000 at the Chidambaram Stadium was presented with a contest of daring and aggression, in

From the third over, when

ORGANISERS of the Asian

Test Championship are expec-

ted to announce within the

next 48 hours if the first trian-

gular series of five-day games

since 1912 will go ahead as

scheduled next month (Rich-

India, Pakistan and Sri

Lanka are due to contest the

round-robin event, but doubts

ard Hobson writes).

Afridi carved Srinath over gully, to a final counter-attack by Sadagopan Ramesh, the idea of retrenchment did not appear to occur to either side.

This approach backfired on Wasim Akram, who must have expected a bigger total first on a pitch that has already begun to wear noticea-bly. So far the amount of turn has been minimal but Anii Kumble, in his fiftieth Test. troubled a succession of batsmen by generating steep bounce to return figures of six for 70 from 24.5 overs.

Pakistan contributed their own downfall and only an impressive half-century by

than 238 when he opted to bat

Yousuf Youhana and a tena-

Test series in doubt

remain because of a dearth of sponsorship. The projected final in Bangladesh would be the first Test match played on neutral ground for 87 years. Raj Singh, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, said: "The situation must become clear in a day or

so. My feeling is that it is

more likely to be yes than no."

Although exuding no signs of division in the eight overs of

Spectators, some paying as little as 50 rupees (70p) for a five day ticket, moved patiently in single-file queues that snaked around the walls of the ground from 7am, three hours before the start of play. A legion of armed guards already stood in place. Despite such trying circumstances, and temperatures of 26C, behaviour was impeccable. Good cricket by Pakistan - and there was plenty in between moments of carelessness - prompted gen-

erous applause. The decline of the Pakistan innings could be traced to the

FROM RICHARD HOBSON IN MADRAS

cious contribution from Moin Khan prevented them from posting an even more modest

India's reply, Pakistan's play-ers must have been both surprised and deflated as the left-handed Ramesh, making his debut on his home ground, unleashed a stream of languid strokes to reach 30 from 22 balls before the close. Each of his five boundaries met with a louder cheer and the confident start by the 23-year-old will swell the attendance today.

moment when umpire Ramaswarny adjudged Anwar leg-before to a ball that the batsman expected to drift past the off stump but instead brushed his pad on the way through to

the wicketkeeper.
The decision could only have been marginal and there were further occasions, too, when the batting side had some cause for complaint. Yet this did not disguise the

culpability of certain members of the top order. Inzamam inexplicably pushed a return catch to Kumble when he should have dispatched the full toss through mid-wicket. Four overs later, Ijaz pushed down the wrong line to a straight ball to become the second of the leg spinner's victims.

To complete a wasteful trilogy, Salim Malik offered a flimsily crooked bat to what amounted to a fast off break from the crafty Srinath.

First ONdistral (channel 33), 4,30am

another attempt to work Kum-ble to third man, and took a diving catch one banded. to the fall of the first five wickets for 91 with a sound tech-When Wasim and Nadeen Khan fell close to the wicker. Kumble was able to celebrate the twelfth five-wicker haul of his Test career. The removal of nique and unflustered man-ner. He drove Kumble for a straight six, a stroke repeated by Moin against the slow leftarm of Joshi two balls later. Saglain to another catch at short leg, when the ball clearly

Yousuf, the only Pakistani

to enhance his reputation dur-

ing the recent lost series

against Zimbabwe, responded

before falling leg-before for 53-when he played outside the line of a straight ball from The sixth wicket had added 63 and Moin then put on 60 with his captain, pulling the

short ball in front of square against the pace attack and cutting late when Kumble strayed in length. His strength

PAKISTAN: First hinkings

Seed Arwer the b Streth. Shehid Africi a Ganguly b Streth. laz Ahmed low b Kumble.

pez expred low b Kuntole.
rzennem-ul-Haq o and b Kumble...
Yousuf Youhana bow b Tendulier...
Salina Malit b Sinceti...
Hidoli Khan c Ganguly b Kumble...
Wissim Alaram c Leomen b Kumble...

Kumble said The joyous scenes if India are able to cape talise on their strong position can only be imagined.

hit nothing but pad, testified to the bowler's good forme. To achieve this against Pakistán in my lifieth Test

makes this one of the most

Ganguly, at slip, anticipated

BOWLING: Scinate 15-3-83-3; Present 16-1-54-0; Kumble 24.5-7-70-6; Joshi 21-8-36-0; Tendular 3-0-10-1. INDIA: First Innings sh not out .... R Drawld, S.R. Tenchaker, "M. Achenuckin, S.C. Genguly, TN. R. Mongle, S. B. Joshi, A. Kumble, J. Silneth and B.K.Y Praised to bet. Saqlain Mushtaq c Lavman b Kumble Nadeem Khan c Dravid b Kumble .....

SCOREBOARD FROM MADRAS

Umpires: R'S Donne (New Zealend) and V K Ramaswarzy

### New row adds to Cork's problems

Ister's

By Ivo Tennant

DOMINIC CORK, the Eng. land all-rounder who is embroiled in Derbyshire latest internal row, claimed yesterday that he was the vic-tim of a "dirty tricks campaign" to try to remove him from the club. He is taking legal advice over allegations in a national newspaper yesterday.

Cork has said he will not continue as the captain of Derbyshire unless he is given com-plete control of cricketing mat-ters. The club have withdrawn the deadline for him to notify them of his intentions and are to hold an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) soon to attempt to resolve differences between him, Harold Rhodes, a committee member, and Andy Hayhurst, the coaching and development officer.

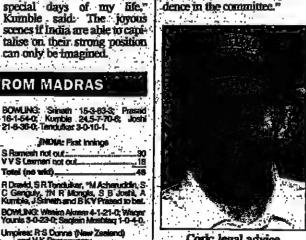
Derbyshire have confirmed that I have not been re-ported to Lord's about a disci-plinary matter and there now seems to be a dirty tricks campaign from somewhere inside the club. \*Cork said. \*This has resulted in callers ringing a local radio phone in, criticis-ing me under false names. The authority the chairman gave me when I took over as captain has subsequently been undermined," he said.

Cork is likely to ask the club to carry out internal investigations, including checking whether telephone calls were made to the newspaper in question. Trevor Bowring, the new chairman of Derbyshire, said yesterday he was upset that this latest incident should occur straight after he pleaded for conciliation when he was appointed on Wednesday.

It would appear that either Cork or Hayhurst, who was displaced as the first-team coach on Cork's advice last May, will have to leave the club Bowring wants both men to remain, but their differences were aired publicly at an acrimonious annual meeting on Tuesday and a reconcilia-

tion seems unlikely.

Bowring would also like to prevent an EGM taking place. but Dave Griffin, the organiser, who has handed in 230 signatures - more than the necessary ten per cent of young members for it to be called — said: We want to force a motion of no confidence in the committee.



#### FOOTBALL: WENGER TO EXTEND FRENCH CONNECTION BY SIGNING BORDEAUX STRIKER **Barrow hoping**

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

to pull through

NATIONWIDE Conference officials have their fingers crossed that Barrow will be able to play out the season, despite the club's appearance in court last Monday to face a winding up order.

John Moules, the Confer-

ence secretary, said: "They have a receiver at the club but will certainly be fulfilling their fixtures in the immediate future. As far as we're concerned, they haven't contravened any Conference rules and will carry on as usual. "We know there have been

a series of meetings this week involving parties interested in putting instruction is being monitored on a daily basis but all the other clubs in the competition hope they will be able to continue."

Jim Duckworth, the liquidator installed to run the club, confirmed that the match against Kingstonian tomorrow would go ahead after a group of businessmen lodged a deposit to cover any potential losses.

Duckworth said that the Conference was insisting that "all football-related debts be cleared" before a new company could be set up. "It may take some time. so we could go from week to week like this for some

while." he said. Barrow were given some breathing space when Stevenage Borough retained their place in the FA Umbro

foler trees

Trophy this week and will travel to Cheltenham Town a week tomorrow rather than take on Barrow in the Conference.

Stevenage £3,000 and ordered to pay the costs of the FA hearing after being found guilty of fielding an ineligible player in the first-round match against Uxbridge. Rob Kean, released by

Luton Town, had played in the United States in the summer and not received the necessary international clearance to resume his career in England.

Stevenage held up their hands to the slip after it was uncovered by Roger Austin when he took over as club secretary last week. Austin, secretary at Hitchin Town for the previous four years. gave up his job as a manager of a computer company to take up the full-time appointment

"It was one of those things that just crop up," Austin said. "It was something overlooked by the player, as simple as that. The club wasn't at fault, it was just a minor technicality."

The Conference expects to hear from the FA Council today that it has supported the recommendation by the League Sanctions Committee that the Conference should not be allowed to set up a second division, news which seems sure to provoke a robust reaction.

### Arsenal move for Diawara

NORTH London's apparent captivation with all things Gallic is expected to be further reinforced today when Arsenal complete the transfer of Kaba Diawara, the Bordeaux forward. In spite of his relative inexperience, the 23-year-old impressed Wenger, the Arsenal manager, in training this week and an estimated £25 million fee has been agreed between the

dubs. in the short-term. Diawara, has been signed as cover for Wenger's first-choice attacking partnership of Dennis Bergkamp and Nicolas Anel-ka. Though both are fit, uncertainty surrounding the availability of Nwankwo Kamu has left Wenger's options thin up front Kanu, who joined Arse-nal for £4 million from Inter-

Fergus McCann, the mana-

nazionale a fortnight ago, is still awaiting his work permit. Diawara has spent most of the past three years on Bor-deaux's substitutes' bench and remaining in France would offer only more of the same. "If he comes back to us, he will spend the rest of the season on the bench," Elie Baup, the Bordeaux coach, said.

Wenger's response to the red tape encountered by Kanu, the Nigeria forward, has been no less strident. "It is frustrating for me to say the least, especially as in France you can sign a player from anywhere and play him right away." he said. "I am delighted to get Kanu but I do not intend to sign any more players from outside Europe now because the process is so difficult."

By George Caulkin and Stephen Wood

ging director of Celtic, has promised a speedy resolution to Celtic's continuing dispute with Croatia Zagreb over the non-payment of Mark Vidu-ka's £3 million transfer fee. Fifa confirmed yesterday they had received a letter of protest from the Croatian Football Federation, raising the prospect of an official investigation into the conduct of the Scottish

Celtic will ensure all



McAteer: frustrated

ride League

Stake v Manchester City (7.45). . . . SMITHOFF FRESH LEAGUE: Pre-division: Colerano y Ornagh (7.45) and properly," McCann said in an official statement last night. "Celtic feels strongly that it is to everyone's advan-tage that Fifa has full disclosure of events and will keep them advised of our inten-tions." Viduka has returned to Celtic Park after a seven-week absence because of emotional

parties are dealt with fairly

Mick Wadsworth was yesterday appointed the new manager of Colchester United, the Nationwide League second division club, resigning from Scarborough eight months after leading the club into the third division play-offs. Ray McHale and Derek Mountfield will share managerial duties at The McCain Stadium on a caretaker basis.

Alex Ferguson has admitted defeat in his bid to add to Manchester United's ranks before the European Cup transfer deadline on Sunday. It's a limited field but one I'm in because so many players are cup-tied," he said. "We will not be signing anyone." Jason McAteer, the new

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

POOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE: Midland Conference: Chester-lett v Mansberg (1.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE Club matches

WaheBeid v Sheffleid (8.0) Castleford v Gateshead (7.30)...... ington v St Helens (7.30) ........ OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Bustweiser Leegue: New castle Engliss v London Towers (7.30) HOCKETE Warten's redicted stoken Chara-ponsition (at Cycle) Palezo, 12 (6).

Blackburn Rovers signing, revealed yesterday that Liver-pool, his former club, had tried to persuade him to stay a while longer. Blackburn themselves have been trying to tease some loyalty out of Tim Sherwood, their captain, although it appears that their efforts might also be in vain. Sherwood has rejected the offer of a new, improved con-

tract. Rovers want the midfield player to stay, but insist they will not offer the 29-year-old more money. Sherwood has publicly questioned the club's ambition. leading to speculation that he could soon join Tottenham Hotspur. -However, there was another

twist last night, with Sher-wood claiming that he does not want to leave. "I have let the manager know that I do not want to go." Sherwood said. "I am very disappointed that we have not been able to agree terms. From the start of the negotiations, which have dragged on too long. I have come a lot closer to Blackburn's figure than the club have to mine." McAteer arrived at Ewood

Park yesterday, despite Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, trying to per-suade him to stay at Antield "Gerard told me that he did not want me to go," McAteer said, "but it was pretty obvious that I was not in his longterm plans. When you spend so much time on the substitutes" bench, it gets you down."

McAteer is expected to make his debut for Blackburn against Spurs in the FA Car-ling Premiership tomorrow.

### Veteran targets his final goal

Alaric Nightingale on the Russian striker aiming for the top at 52

DURING the past four years, Vladimir Turnaev has appeared in more than 100. games for his football team. Gasovik Gasprom. Last season, the centre forward's goals helped the modest Izhevsk side to finish in a respectable nenth place. This season, they are hoping to go one better. All perfectly ordimary stuff, except that Turnaev celebrated his 52nd birthday in December and only made his senior debut lour years ago. .

More startling still, the great man is also a senior figure in local business and politics. In between walloping in goals for Gasovik-legend has it he once struck a penalty so hard that when the ball came back off the post it knocked the referee off his feet - he is the club's president and director general of his company, Spetzgas

Spengas employs more than 5.000 people in Russia and has numerous subsidiaries, including one in Ham-burg. One of his company's intriguing products is a gaspowered car. Principally, though, it builds roads and drilling platforms in the arctic rim of Western Siberia He began playing at the age of 17 - ironically, for a

men with his entrepreneurial skills, in a town called Mark in Eastern Russia.

Business commitments prevented him from playing at a senior level and it was not until the age of 48, when he had a little spare time, that he made his debut in the Russian third division. After two promotions, he finds himself just one step away from the highest league in the country.

Turnaev is also a grandfather and his granddaughter. Katya, 8, frequently attends matches to cheer him onwards and upwards, hopefully to the Russian premier

league.
"I have a dream," he says, To take the team to the top division, go out on the pitch, play for about ten minutes not too stremuously - and say goodbye to the fans."



ssitive out

Iomas hop

DYMPICS langa 10 fight

David Hands on a long-term strategy that has brought rapid results

### Ulster's plan reaps early harvest

AS Ulster stand 24 hours away from the most significant day in their history, Harry Williams, the club's director of rugby, may reflect today with a smile on the modest targets that he set for his first year in charge.
"We made a conscious deci-

sion at the start of the season that we would get the commu-nity involved," Williams, who only took up his three-year appointment last July, said. He also asked that the community should not expect miracles from his players. Where, he may wonder as he gazes out of his Dublin hotel window on the eve of the European Cup final against Colomiers, did he go wrong? Yet it is Williams, a self-

effacing former prop from the Malone and Bangor clubs, who has propelled Ulster along the road that so many English clubs would love to have trod. Not only that, it is Williams who has made the transition from the dear. departed days of amateurism. when Ulster dominated the inter-provincial tournament, to the heady days of profession-alism. He did so, he says, because his former life as the headmaster of a primary school four miles outside Belfast had become too

When Williams coached Ulster from 1987 to 1991, he carried off four provincial titles with teams that, man for man, were more talented than his present squad. Think of a back division comprising two outstanding wings in Trevor Ring-land and Keith Crossan, recall the powerful David Irwin now the team's doctor - and forwards like Willie Anderson, Philip Matthews, Jim McCoy and Denis McBride.

Ulster's secret is that they have learnt to play for each Anderson himself declared toanyone who would listen after the semi-final defeat of Stade



Williams, Ulster's director of rugby for only six months, has quickly built a team that is greater than the sum of its parts

Français — is greater than the

"I came in with a three-year plan to try to develop the players," Williams, 55, said. "We didn't know what the format would be for the next few years, so this year we were conservative in our goals." His aim was to qualify for next year's European tournament by finishing first or second in the inter-provincial tournament. In the event, Ulster came second, behind

"We also wanted to give a good account of ourselves in Europe," Williams said, and during the dark days of September, when three matches were lost and one was drawn.

that seemed unlikely. After the 39-3 defeat in Toulouse, Williams admits to losing his temper with his players.

We were just so bad that day, the self-belief wasn't there, but when we got them back at Ravenhill in the return, we played them exactly the way we needed to." Williams said. Maybe his fit of spleen had its effect precisely because it was so unexpected. Williams is an organised. methodical man who makes full use not only of his playing resources but also of his teaching skills. He nurtures the family spirit in the team, the

boyhood friendships that have lasted into manhood.

tion leaves him with a relative ly small playing base: "These guys have known each other from school, they have socialised at clubs, it's a tight-knit community." Williams said. "But the spin-off from our manuscript has been to grants." success has been to create a sense of identity which other bodies within the community dentify with.

"Our raison d'être is to serve the national side, but the feel-good factor locally has been massive. We have tried to be user-friendly, the boys talk to youngsters, and we have to admit to becoming more marketable, which helps sponsorship and may also help draw

People have thanked us for providing the greatest day of their lives?

based players - and possibly one Heremy Davidson, the British Isles lock] from France."

Dublin yesterday, they were given a rapturous send-off at of the well-wishers will follow them south tomorrow to swamp Lansdowne Road with their colours.

ing the final has been over-whelming." Williams said. "We have had faxes from people we have never heard of thanking us for providing them with one of the greatest moments of their lives."

### **Dublin looks** the perfect stage for final

he European Cup Final at Lansdowne Road tomorrow will be a passionate affair. We should expect nothing less of Dublin, a city that sees itself as embracing the European spirit. This could not be said of Cardiff or Bordeaux. Despite the enthusiasm and harmony with which the finals were greeted over the past three years, neither of those cities has the cosmopolitan air that we will witness around St Stephen's Green and

Grafton Street tomorrow. If truth be told, it was difficult to imagine a European Cup final taking place in Dublin. A team from the Emerald Isle, according to received wisdom, was not expected to get this far. They were not up to it, those from these islands. And given these rude presumptions, Lansdowne Road was not seen as a possible venue for the competition's final

They could not muster

enough support to fill the

famous stadium. The European final, it was felt, could

not be staged in Dublin in the way, for instance, that it

was in Cardiff two years ago

when no team from Wales

was present. With Wales's

strong tradition for rugby.

its interest in all things to do

with the game, Leicester and Brive were able to draw a

crowd of 41,644 to the Arms

Park, a large percentage of

whom were neutral Welsh

observers. It is hard to imag-

ine this level of support turn-

ing up for such a match

anywhere else in the world.

The European rugby cup

organisers knew this and so.

by bringing the final back to

Arms Park for a second suc-

cessive season, they helped

to sustain the momentum of the fledgeling competition. The crowd for that 1997 final

was twice that of the previ-

ous year for the inaugural tournament, when 21,800

turned up to watch the home

team, Cardiff, play Tou-

louse. Last year, in Bor-

deaux, there was a full

The expectation is that,

with a vast exodus tomor-

row from the north, Lans-

downe Road's capacity

crowd of 49,000 will prove to

be the biggest yet for a Euro-pean final and so put any

patronising conduct to rest.

ues. From the organisers'

point of view, in what has

been, for them, a traumatic

year, they could not have dreamt of a better outcome

for the contest, nor a better

stage upon which to play. In

view of the bitter battles that

have been fought over the

past 12 months, and are still

being fought, some will see

this as sweet revenge

against the English clubs

who chose not to take part.

The pace of growth contin-

house of 36,500.

back more of our English-

When the team travelled to Belfast Central station. Many

The response to our reach-

He added, however: "The danger now is that expectation is so high. We just can't allow the defeat of Stade Français to GERALD DAVIES

Rugby Union Commentary

Acrimony has aroused such

ugly emotions.
That a team from Ireland should have the chance to carve its name on the trophy is a significant moment Only the mean-minded, foolish and arrogant will mention the absence this season of the English clubs and the effect that this might have had on the tournament.

This weekend, indeed from the moment Ulster qualified so dramatically in front of 20,000 eestatic people at Ravenhill, it is not the tournament that should feel the poorer because of the absentees. Rather it is the players and the clubs who will have felt left out of the spectacle. It is they who will recognise emptiness for not

having played their part.
If they lack that sense of unease, of unwilling admiration, or even envy, while others prosper, they cannot consider themselves to be true competitors.

ny tournament creates its own momentum, this one surely has. True, if the French clubs had swept the board. as they nearly did, it would have been far from satisfactory. The presence of Uister has made all the difference and has swung the balance, for the moment at least, in favour of the organising committee in their battle with the English clubs.

But, as ever, in the unending and agonising arguments of the past 12 months, what may seem a valid opinion at breakfast time may not accord so easily with events come lunch time. So that after the intoxicating mood of Dublin this weekend and the belief that a European tournament of sorts is the only way for the European game to flourish, will we be any the wiser in the cold light of next week about the form of future tournaments? Critically, the

But, away with secondrate politics. Let us glory for now in what Dublin has to

French clubs hold the deci-

sive cards.

### Thomas hopes for positive outcome

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

definitive verdict over his dis- onship. Christophe Laussucq missal in the unofficial Anglo-Welsh series against Saracens last weekend. Thomas hopes to be cleared for the SWALEC Cup game with Newport

fornorrow.
Swansea have informed Saracens that they think the sending-off to be sufficient punishment, but the London club have pointed to a further act of violence by Thomas before the incident that brought about his dismissal. The Rugby Foothall Union, through English Rugby Partnership, are expected to give a verdict after a meet-

ing in Bristol today. France have named three new caps to play Italy tomor-

DEAN THOMAS, the Swan-row in their warm-up match sea forward, is waiting for a for the Five Nations Champigains his first cap at scrum half on the back of a fine season for Stade Français, while both props, Patrice Collazo and Alessio Galasso, will make their debuts in Genoa.

The France selectors have been handicapped by the European matches that take place this weekend, which have deprived them of players from Colomiers, Bourgoin, Brive, Montferrand and Narbonne. They play Ireland in Dublin a week tomorrow in the first round of the Five Nations.

FRANCE iv Bely, lomomowi: A Gomes, E Nomack, F Comba, R Dourine, X Gerbeio-ss, T Cestargnete, C Laussidor, P Collezo, R Ibenier Laptein), A Galasso, H Morin, T Cardz, S Betsen, C Juillet, P Benetion.

### Scots seek short-term solution

SCOTLAND have traditionaly profited from consistent selection through the Five Nations Championship, but there was a decidedly temporary look about the 22-man squad announced yesterday injury last October, has com-for their first match in the pleted his recovery, but the tournament this year, against Wales at Murrayfield temor-

row week. Indeed, Jim Telfer, the coach, all but admitted that, if injuries are overcome, three changes are likely to be made to the squad before Scotland take on England at Twickenham a formight later. Gordon Simpson, Matt Proudfoot and Jamie Mayer could not be considered for the Wales match, but if all three continue to regain fitness, they are almost certain to come into contention for the Calcutta Cup match. Mayer, the centre, and Simpson, the flank forward, have

groin injuries, but both have responded well to treatment in recent days. Proudfoot, the prop who sustained a neck injury last October, has com-



By Alasdair Reid

selectors believe that he still lacks match-fitness. Strangely, though, they showed no reservations about

including Tom Smith, the British Isles loose-head prop. who has been bothered by a neck injury all season. "Although Tom hasn't played much, he has had intensive therapy and we feel that he is fully fit now," Arthur Hastie, the team manager, said. "We felt that Matt Proudfoot needed some games to rebuild his match-fitness and confidence."

The temporary absence of Mayer gives the selectors a problem as to who should partner John Leslie in midfield. The main contenders are Alan Tait, Cameron Murray and Gregor Townsend. There is no easy solution, though, as Murray and Townsend have

played at wing and full back respectively in recent games and moving either to centre would have a knock-on effect. Townsend may be given the nod, with Glenn Metcalie brought in at full back. The Scottish Rugby Union

has negotiated for John Leslie

to be available for all the Five Nations games. Leslie had signed a contract to play for a Japanese club from March. but his release for internationals has been secured.

SOUAD: Backs: G Armstrong (Newbasile Falcons), D Hodge (Edinburgh Revers), J Lesile (Glesgow Caleotonurs), K Logan (Wassel, S Longstaff (Glesgow Caleotonurs), K Logan charles (Edinburgh Revers), B Redgest (Edinburgh Revers), B Tall (Edinburgh Revers), G Townsend (Brive) Forwards: S Brotherstone (Edinburgh Revers), G Rattloch (Glesgow Caleotonurs), B Humail (London Scotisch), S Grimes (Glesgow Caleotonurs), D Hitton (Barth, M Lesile (Edinburgh Revers), S Murray (Bedford), E Peters (Bath), A Pountrey (Northarryoth), T Smith (Glesgow Caleotonurs), T Smith (Glesgow Caleotonurs), T Smith (Glesgow Caleotonurs), Walton (Revers), G Welt (Newcastle Falcons), G Welt (Newcastl

another, he joined Els in sec-

ond place. The South African.

twice US Open champion and

already a winner of his coun-

try's PGA title this year, did

not drop a stroke in his 65 and

said: "I'm really pleased. With

#### NETBALL

#### **OLYMPICS**

#### Ganga to fight expulsion

By JOHN GOODBODY

ONE of the five International Olympic Committee (IOC) members facing expulsion advised Juan Antonio Samaranch against trying to oust him yesterday and said that the IOC president was "defending his own skin".

Jean-Claude Ganga, of the Congo, said that he would fight desperately to keep his IOC membership. The president of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa said that Samaranch "saves his skin by throwing opprobrium on the others". "If he is trying to get rid of his friends, it will be dangerous for him," Ganga said. "! can count on at least 40 members [out of [il] who will vote against my exclusion. Never

in my life will i resign." -Samaranch asked the six members who were recommended for expulsion by the IOC's executive board last Sunday to resign before the vote dn March 17 and 18, when a two-thirds majority will be needed for expulsion. Only one, Charles Mukora of

Ganga insisted to La Liberation newspaper in Paris that none of the benefits that be derived from his visits to Salt Lake City, the venue of the 2002 Winter Olympics, during the bidding process - including large medical bills and help in a huge real estate

#### POCER WINCHESTER M Winchester's sights set high

Devon, celebrated his return to the European Tour with a superb round of 65, seven under par, on the opening day of the Hemeken Classic in Perth, Western Australia, yes-

Winchester's round, in which he had eight birdies, put him alongside Ernie Els. the world No 5 from South Africa, and only a stroke behind the leader, Jarmo Sandelin, of Sweden.

Andrew Coltart, of Scotland, who is pursuing a third victory on Australian soil, is only a shot behind Winchester and Els but, in the perfect conditions. Thomas Bjorn, the Dane defending his title. could manage no better than

When Winchester, 31, won the English amateur title at the age of 18 in 1985, comparisons inevitably were made with Nick Paldo, who had charted that course a decade earlier. The Exeter-born play-er even tried to copy Faldo.

taking lessons from David Leadbetter while at college in Florida and occasionally practising with the former Open and Masters champion.

He had high hopes of making a name for himself when he turned professional in 1990 but, three years later, he lost his playing card and had to revert to the secondary Challenge Tour. "it's difficult to break even on that and there were times when I wanted to give up the game," he said. "I completely lost my way." "I was so confused technic-

ally and financially, it was terrible. It still is. I've had to sell a house in Wimbledon because I could not afford the mortgage and at the moment I'm renting a room in London for £40 a week." Last season, however, he finally graduated from the Challenge Tour back to the

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

GOLF: SPARKLING START BY DEVON PROFESSIONAL HAPPY TO BE BACK ON EUROPEAN TOUR AFTER YEARS OF STRUGGLE

main circuit by finishing in fourth place on the money list and is determined to make a success of it this time. There was no hint of the dra-

matic improvement to come



when he found himself one under after playing seven holes. Then he suddenly burst onto the leaderboard with five successive birdies around the turn and, by finishing with

#### SCORES

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES (Greet Britain and Ireland unless stated) 66t; J Sandein (Swe) 65t; R Worthester, E Els (SA) 66t; A Coltart, N Kerry (Aus.) 67; C Spence (Aus.), C Herritire (U.S.) 68t; R Stephens (Aus.), S Corran (Aus.), J Moseley (Aus.), W Smith (Aus.), H Bigonstad (Nor), P Lonard (Aus.), A McLardy (SA) 89t; Choi Kuung-u (S Kod.), P Fulse (Swe), J Senden (Aus.), P Devemport (NZ), S Laycock (Aus.), G Coles (Aus.), C Herrell (Swe), A Harssen (Deri), N O'Herri (Aus.), E McCoguchi (Aus.), A Bonhorme (Aus.), E McCoguchi (Aus.), A Bonhorme (Aus.), B Dodd, M Ecob (Aus.), A Bonhorme (Aus.), B Dodd, M Ecob (Aus.), G Clairs, M Long (NZ), R Swerson (Aus.), S Smurer (Ger), M Goggin (Aus.) Other soores: 71: 1 Garbuf, M Pilengton, J McHerry, P Harrington, J Woosnem, P Beker, V Philips, 1 Hutchings

no wind, we'll probably never have a better chance to post a good score here and I'm not surprised I'm not leading." Sandelin kept his 52-inch

driver - nine inches longer than standard - in his bag for most of the day and collected no fewer than nine birdies. "It's a nice surprise," Sandelin. 31, said. "I've never started a tournament so well and that's one of the best rounds of my life."

Twice a winner on the European Tour, Sandelin still. believes that he should have had another victory at the 1997 Lancôme Trophy. He finished second to Mark O'Meara, but

months later saw video footage of the American appear-ing to replace his marker incorrectly during the final round and asked O'Meara to hand over the trophy to him. The reigning Masters and

Open champion agreed that the film looked bad, but argued that he had made no deliberate attempt to break the rules and was cleared when questioned by officials about the incident.

Coltart, who won the Australian PGA crown in Sydney in 1994 and 1997 and finally broke his duck on the European Tour last season with victory in the Qatar Masters, began with six straight pars but packed six birdies into the remaining 12 holes and lies in joint fourth position with Neil Kerry. of

LINKS



### Duval eclipsed by Smith's 55 strokes of pure genius

HYPERBOLE wasn't the word for it. David Duval's 59 to win the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic last Sunday was the greatest round of golf played. Then, out of the blue, from a quiet little town in Cumbria, the telephone rang. Fifty-nine was all very well, the venerable caller said, but was it known that the lowest score by a professional golfer had been produced by a little known Englishman more than 60 years before? A performance that beat Duval's by four

strokes, no less?
If 59 was great, what could be said

about a 55? Could it be true? It could,

Wilson Goad, before his retirement a lawyer in practice for more than 40 years. The author of a recently selfpublished work entitled Golf is a Dangerous Game, Goad, during his research, had unearthed the story of Affred Edward Smith, whose mundanity in name and achievement had been made extraordinary by one remarkable round that guaranteed him an enduring place in the annals of the Royal and Ancient game. Not only did Smith the Obscure play the round so described, he also did it on a course that no longer By MEL WEBB

exists and which, moreover, was destroyed by the actions of the ancestors of the doughty Duval.

Alfred Edward Smith was a job-

bing professional golfer who, in the 1930s, was the head professional of the Woolacombe Bay Golf Links in north Devon. A small, spare man of no more than 5st 6in, he had a swing that was all his own and rarely needed more than one putt to get down.

Smith was, by any criterion, a journeyman professional. Except that on New Year's Day, 1936, he negotiated the 18 holes of his home club in 55 strokes, it is a record that, as far as is known, has never been beaten.

Woolacombe Bay measured only 4.248 yards and had a par. or bogey as it then was, of 70. Smith, at least one of whose hand-built, hickoryshafted clubs still exists, went out in 29 and came back in 26 with a hole in one at the 18th. Duval probably could play 4:248 yards of a golf course in about 35; he will never have the chance to prove it at Woola-

combe Bay Golf Links. Sixty years ago, the golf course nestled behind the beach, long and narrow. It exists no more, obliterated by the American Armed Forces, who used Woolacombe as a rehearsal stage for the D-Day landings.

And Smith? He died unrecognised for his feat, having spent, so the story goes, some of his latter years as a missionary. Deep into his eightles, it is said, he could still play to a handicap of eight, unless there was money around, in which case it was closer to four. By all accounts, even in his dotagem, he was something of a hustler. David Duval, one suspects. would have approved of Alfred Edward Smith.

### Zinzan to lead by example

By CATHY HARRIS

JO ZINZAN is expecting a physical clash when she captains England for the first time in the 58th home international against Wales at the Welsh Institute of Sport in Cardiff tomorrow. The 5ft llin Middlesex

defender, who has never been on the losing side against Wales, said: "I don't think they like playing against us. We won a close contest 48-39 last year and I suspect we'll have to work hard again."

Zinzan - a name derived from an Italian horseman at the court of Henry VIII - is one of ten Commonwealth Games bronze medal-winners included in the England lineup. She takes over as captain from Fiona Murragh, who has retired. Anne Marie Muller is the only new cap, with Helen Lonsdale recalled after snapping her anterior cruciate ligament on the 1997 tour of South Africa.

England have lost only once in this domestic series since 1949 and players will be staking their claims for the world championships in Christchurch in September. Jean Watson, the former Yorkshire coach, takes charge of plotting against the English

potenting algainst the English after being given a 12-month contract with Wales.

ENGLAND: L Stanley North Durham), I Neville (Greater Manchester), L Cerpenter (Surrey), L Law, A Middler, A Nowton (Essoc Met), H Lonsdale, H Marmutor, J Zrozan (Middlesas, captarii, O Murphy, k Aspinali. N Sodali (Derbyshre)

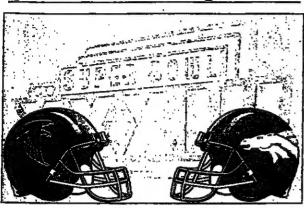


his final goal



### Chandler finally rekindles career on the wane

Oliver Holt in Miami meets the quarterback who came good at last



o his right, the brash, trash-talking young running back was shooting his mouth off and spreading his creed. Every day is a good day for Jamal Anderson," Jamal Anderson was saying as he stroked his bejewelled neck and did his best to project the image of insolence and utter invulnerability that is de rigueur in Super Bowl week. Chris Chandler shot him a sideways glance, smiled thinly and rubbed his bald patch.

Most people have never heard of Chandler. Until fortune relented and planted its sweet kiss on him last season, he was the Nowhere Man of American football, a journeyman quarterback, drifting from team to team, biting hard on rejection after rejection. He was sliding towards oblivion. "I thought I was finished," he said yesterday. "My career felt like slow death."

While men such as John Elway, his opposite number on Sunday, had progressions so gilded that they could actually afford to refuse to play for a team that they had been drafted by, Chandler, 33, got used to being shown the door just when he thought he had made it. Round-faced and balding, he was hardly a golden boy in the mould of Elway. Joe Montana or Troy Aikman. He did not even look the part.

Such has been the transformation, though, that when he leads the Atlanta Falcons into their match against Elway's

Collect "Manage

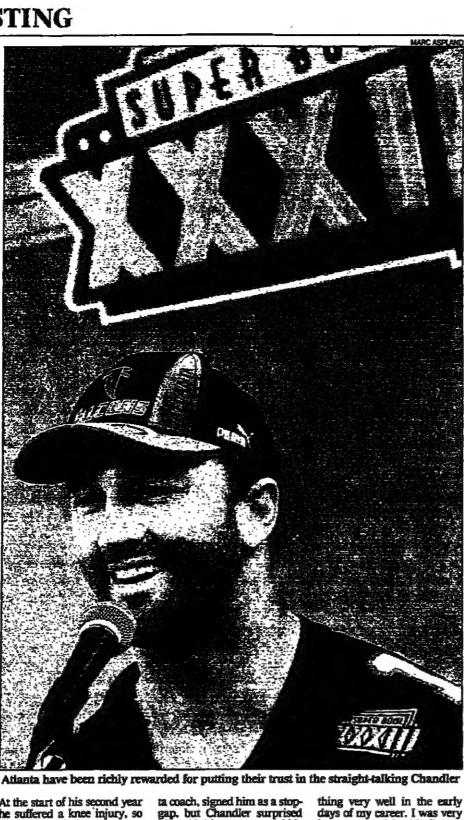
Denver Broncos at Pro Player Stadium here, many observers are convinced that he has proved himself the better of the two. In its perpetual search for examples of the existence of the American Dream, the nation is latching on to the rise of a man who was "one step away from the cheese line".

Chandler is a worthy subject of their admiration. He admits to weaknesses and mistakes, something increasingly rare in professional sport. He admits that he, more than anyone else, was at fault for his failures and he laughs at the fecklessness of those who say now, after one season of success, that he is better than Elway, better than the best. "To me, that is absurd," he said. "That amuses me."

His problems began soon after he joined the Indianapo-lis Colts, his first team, in 1988.



Chandler: transformation



At the start of his second year he suffered a knee injury, so the Colts drafted a new quar-ta coach, signed him as a stop-gap, but Chandler surprised him with his accuracy and his terback and Chandler was moved on to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He spent two years as second string to Vinmy Testaverde, "two years of not knowing why I was there".

Things seemed to have taken a turn for the better when

he joined the Phoenix Cardinals in 1991, changed his attitude and decided that he needed to learn more about his trade and rid himself of some of the bitterness that had gripped him. "I thought I had all the answers back then," he said. "But I found out I didn't actually have many at all." Chandler had an excellent

season for the Cardinals in 1992, but at the beginning of 1993 Phoenix signed Steve Beuerlein and chose to start with him. He went to the Los Angeles Rams, who preferred to start with Chris Miller, and from there to the Houston Oilers, who promptly signed Steve McNair. He seemed condemned to a career in the purgatory of mediocrity.

Then, at the start of last season, Dan Reeves, the Atlandurability, and gradually he gained his confidence.

This season, Reeves made it clear that he was putting all his faith in Chandler, who responded by inspiring the Falcons to 16 victories in 18 games and by orchestrating the drive that earned them their surprise win over the Minnesota Vikings a fortnight ago and booked the Falcons' place in their first Super Bowl. "A few years ago, I never thought this would happen," he said. "Of course, I dreams about it, but as the years went by the reality of it seemed fur-ther and further away. I usualence with people when they

is the best way of dealing with it all for me.

LINKS
WEBSITER superbowl you com ow of con TELEVISION: Sky Sports One, Sunday 10.30pm (live)

say I have had a weird route to

think the results speak for themselves." get here. But forgetting about what has happened in the past To complete the picture, every one of the coaches who lost their faith in Chandler lost their jobs soon afterwards. "I didn't handle the whole The Falcons have just award-

ed him a four-year, \$25 million contract extension with a \$6 million signing bonus. In every other NFL city in which he played, Chandler always rented a house. Last month, at last, he bought one.

immature and I said all sorts

of stupid things. In retrospect, I thought I might have

reached the end of the road

several times. A couple of stops ago, I thought it was probably the last stop. I never

knew when my time was

going to be up, when I was going to be leaving a team. I

just tried to hang in there.
"I just feel fortunate that

Dan Reeves has said that I am

the one here, that the Falcons

are going to win or lose with

me. It is the first time that any

organisation has put their trust in me. It is the first time

that anybody has shown me

any real commitment and I

### A docusoap with dignity

TELEVISION CHOICE

Country House BBC2, 7.30pm

Although the strategy is conventional, a characterled narrative with a raft of overlapping stories, the documentary soap about Woburn Abbey continues to be different from most others of the genre. to be different from most others of the genre. Dramas are not manufactured for the sake of grabbing viewers and the series eschews the usual jokey commentary delivered by a celebrity voice. But the low-key approach can be effective, allowing us to absorb the subject at our own pace and without feeling that we are being shouted at Lord Tavistock's painstaking attempts to regain his facility with words after a stroke are relayed in quiet detail, as is Lady Tavistock's guarded delight at the emergence of a promising new racehorse.

The everyday story of easylet continues to evoke the world of cheap flights and the culture of the masses. Central to this is football and in tonight's episode some fans are off to France for the World episode some fans are off to France for the World Cup. Or would be, had the flight not been cancelled. There follows rapid horsetrading with passengers on another plane in the hope they can be bribed to swap their seats. Meanwhile Stelios, easyJer's young owner, is off to Seattle to buy new planes and Katrina, the check-in girl, is getting ready for her wedding. No programme would be complete without an awkward traveller. The latest is a young backpacker who has managed to get as far as Luton, by way of India and Australia, but will go no further unless he produces his passport.

Was It Good for You? Channel 5, 8,00pm

Jazz Century

Radio 3, 11.30pm

Not so long ago any programme about naturism would have been newsworthy, let alone one going out at peak time. Familiarity may not breed contempt but it does reduce novelty value and we have seen so many naked bodies on the screen in recent weeks that a few more are neither here nor those. After Grandhaldts, venous on two British there. Ailsa Greenhalgh's report on two British couples holidaying in the buff in southern Spain is, in any case, sensible and snigger-free (except when it comes to Greenhalgh herself, who is happy to watch others stripping off but is coy about doing it

Helen Ludbrook and Mark Banville enjoy a naturist holiday in Spain (Channel 5, 8pm)

herself). Mary and Chris, in their late fifties, are seasoned naturists and say it has helped to strengthen their marriage. Helen, twentysomething at a guess, also likes to holiday in the nude but for her boyfriend Mark it is the first time.

BBC2, 8.30pm

When 14 of his immediate family died one after the other. Tony Wilkinson became so depressed that he started to drink heavily and contemplated suicide. Life had no further interest for him. Then he bought a copy of a gardening magazine, decided to plant the free seeds which came with it and thus started a process of gradual recovery, during which he came off the drink, saved his marriage and created a magnificent garden with 7.000 annuals. There can be no greater testament to the healing powers of gardening, though it is only one of many stories collected for this programme. We hear from a man who found solace in his garden after losing the mother to whom he was devoted and we visit a prison garden the care and planting of which is helping to rehabilitate a group of lifers.

Correction: Captain Robin Woodall was exonerated by Cunard Line after the QE2 ran aground in 1992, and returned to his command, retiring in 1994 (TV Choice, January 18).

RADIO CHOICE

The Friday Play: Jupiter Radio 4, 9.00pm

Ageing novelist with violin for sale meets attractive young violinist seeking violin. The starting point is straightforward enough but as the story unwinds it becomes an absorbing and complex study of the writer, a man in pain of both the physical and emotional kinds: the violinist stirs memories of a continual kinds: relationship long ago. But there are other relationships in Stephen James's play. James uses the writer in two ways, directly at first as part of the relationship with the violinist, and indirectly throughout as the narrator of the somewhat tidal nature of the young woman's relationships with lovers, two of which are clearly of a transitory nature. Barbara Dryhurst is the violinist, Peter Jeffrey is the novelist. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1 (BBC)

Radio 3, 11-30pm

This is the repeat slot for the Sounding the Century jazz history transmitting on Saturday evenings but it gets an airing here because the repeat is more convenient for many listeners. Tonight the focus is 1917, an important year for jazz because until then, no jazz recording had been made. The honour went to the Original Dixieland Jazz Band (ODJB) and there are plenty who think their fame rests more in their place in record history than their actual status as a jazz outfit. The ODJB's first recordings, as can be heard tonight, were notable for the fact that they tended to be formulaic, with very little improvisation. As Russell Davies shows, the ODJB made absurd claims about its importance in the jazz pantheon.

2.00 Mark Radelife 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Pale Tong's Essential Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Radio 1 Rep Show 2.00em Fablo and Grooverider 4.00 Emma B

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00em Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewert 5.05 Seen Hughes 7.00 A Very British Story (4/4) 7.30 Fridey Night is Music Night 9.15 Frankensein (3/6) 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 David Jacobs 11.00 Belleve it or Not 12.00em Lynn Persons 4.00 Leta Sharme

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Moming Reports 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Midday News 1.00 Ruscos and Co 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Edm. Presented by Susan Bookbinder 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsright. Includes commentary on Stoke v Menchester City and a preview of the weekend's Australian Open tennis linets 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night 2.30 Australian Open Tennis. Jonathan Overend presents commentary on the ledies' singles linet from Melbourne

VIRGIN

6.30am Danny Baker 8.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harrist Scott 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00am Steve Power

TALK RADIO

6.00mm The Big Boys Breekfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Arms Raeburn 3.00 OKI to Telk 6.00 The SportZone 8.00 Jackie Mason Live from New York 10.00 Dave Barrett 1.00em Miss Dicturi

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Westway 8.20 Off the Shelt: Sias Mamer 8.35 Science in Action 9.00 World News 9.05 The Art of Transleting 9.20 John Peel 9.50 Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 On Your Behalf 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Focus on Fairt 12.00pm World News 12.05 Outlook 12.45 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Science in Action 2.30 Bast on Record 3.00 World News 2.05 Football Edra 3.15 Performance 3.30 The Virtage Chart Show 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Multitrack: Allamative 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 6.45 Sports Round-Up 8.00 World News 6.15 Enten Today 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.00 World News 6.15 Enten Today 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.00 World News 6.15 Enten Today 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.00 World News 7.05 Science in Action 7.30 On Your Bahalf 7.45 Off the Shelf: Siza Mamer 8.00 Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20 Britain Today 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20 Britain Today 9.30 Bast on Record 10.00 World News 10.15 Britain Today 9.30 Best on Record 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Multirack: Alternative 11.00 World News 11.05 Cutlook 11.45 Insight 12.00am The World Today 12.30 Science in Action 12.55 My Century 1.90 The World Today 1.30 Medidan Books 2.00 The World Today 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Ineight 4.00 The World Today 4.30 Westend

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Beiley's Easler Breakfast 8.00 Henry Kefly. The Half of Fame Hour. Plus, favourite precas voted for in the Classic PM Top 300 12.00pm (unchtime Requests. Jane Jones plays favourite music 2.00 Concerto, Vauchan William Jones plays favourité music 2.00 Concerto, Vauginen Williams (Concerto Grosso) 3.00 Jamie Crick, Continuous Classics, plus sport updates and travel news 6.30 Newsnight Top stories and interviews with guests from the arts world 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven, John Brunning Introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Corelli (Concerto Grosso No 8 in G minor); Boccherini (Sting Quintet in C minor); Albicastro (Coel Estes Angelio Chroir; Schulbert (Quartet No 2 in F minor), Tarthi (Violin Concerto in G); Wiedd (Stabet Maler) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto. Vaugiten Williams (Concerto Grosso) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffitins. The Early Breaklast Show

### **PRODUCT** RECALL

**ASDA Farm Stores Sardines in** Tomato Sauce – 120g

Best Before December 2000. Code C225 1PCE

Despite rigorous quality control procedures there is a small possibility that a limited number of ASDA Farm Stores Sardines in Tomato Sauce 120g (19p) do not meet our normal standards, and may cause a tingling in the mouth and mild allergic reaction.

Any customers who have bought ASDA Farm Stores Sardines with a canning code of C225 IPCE on the bottom of the tin and a best before date of December 2000 on the top, should return them to the Customer Service Desk at any ASDA store for a full refund.

No other ADSA Sardines, including those currently on sale, are affected by this announcement.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.



#### SNOOKER

### Bingham keeps calm to humble Higgins

STUART BINGHAM, who marked his debut in the final stages of a world-ranking tournament by beating Tony Drago 50 on Monday, expanded his giant killing portfolio with a 54 defeat of John Higgins in the last 16 of the Welsh Open at Cardiff yesterday (Phil Yates writes).

Bingham compiled breaks of 61 and 57 in building a 3-0 lead but Higgins fought back to 4-4. It looked a classic case of an inexperienced hopeful freezing on the threshold of overcoming one of the game's most easily recognisable fig-ures, but Bingham retained sufficient composure to win an extremely scrappy decider. "I've never done anything

remotely like this before. I'm speechless," Bingham said. He now meets Peter Ebdon or Joe Swall in the next round. Stephen Hendry compiled breaks of 64, 54, 107 and 84 during his 5-4 victory over Matthew Stevens. The Scot

restricted Stevens to a single point in recovering from a 4-3 Steve Davis improved his chances of remaining in the top 16 in the rankings for an unprecedented twentieth consecutive season by tactically outwitting Fergal O'Brien on the way to a 50 win based

more on guile than potting

Auswers from page 50

Results, page 50

WORD-WATCHING

(b) The doctrine that all things tend towards ultimate good, as distinguished from optimism which holds that all things are now for the best. The Greek agathos means "good". "Wilful evil, to the degree implied in the distinction between Agathism and Optimism, is inconsistent with our apprehension of His Jie,

BREVET (b) An official or authorizative message in writing, especially a Papal Indulgence. From the French diminutive of bref a letter. In the Army, a document conferring nominal rank on an officer, but giving no right to extra pay. "This worthy Kyng hath his bre-vets and his letters sent for his lordes to holde a parlement."

(c) Aside. On or to one side. Awry, off from the straight line. From A a preposition of state. + jee! a call to a horse to move to one side. 1837: "A looking-glass that don't make you look as if your face was all agee."

(b) A kind or loving look. An English adaptation of the Italian bel guardo. "lovely look". Spenser, Faerie Queene, 1990: "Upon her cyclids many graces sate...Working belgards and amorous re-

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE I, Nxg6+! hxg6: 2. Qh6+ and mate follows.

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny, Includes a review of Ostrovsky's The Forest, which opened last night at the National Theatre

9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday, Includes Vaughen Williams (Overture: The Wasps); Schuber (Perno Storate in E minor, 0566)

10.30 Artist of the Weelc: Midori

11.00 Sound Stories The Tudors and the Stuarts Donald Macleod investigates Queen Anne

12.00pm Composer of the Weelc: Tavener

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert David Hill, organist of Winchester Cathedral, joins forces with the parnst Stephen Coombs for a duo recital

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philhammonic under Paavo Jarvi and Donald Hurt, Leonicias Kavalios, violin, Judith Howarth, soprano, Paul Wheten, bentone, Thee Choirs Festival Chorus

4.00 Music Restored with Lucie Skeaping (r)

4.45 Music Machine with Tommy Pearson

5.00 in Tune Sean Ratiefy is joined by the British arappella group Black Voices

7.30 Performance on 3 Live Irom St David's Hall, Cardiff, BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Mark Wigglesworth, Mario Brunelto, cello, Christine Brewer, soprano, Susan Bickley, mezzo, lan Schey, tenor, Neal Davies, bass, Adrian Perington,

organ, BBC National Chorus of Wales, City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus. Dvorak (Cetto Concerto in B minor) 8.10 A Sound Read. Ivan Hewett is joined by Rabbi Julia Neuberger and critic and broadcaster Vatentine Cunningham to review recently released books on music8.30 Concert, part two. Jenacek (Glegolinc Mass) 9.25 Postscript: Dissenting Voices George Monbiot Introduces excerpts from the writing of the 17th-century activist Gerard Winstanley 9.50 BBC Symphony Orchestra (Soundling the Century) A concert celebraing the work of the Italian composer Luigi Nono, born 75 years ago today. Conductor Tadaala Otaka, Nicole Tibbets, soprano. Thomas Randle, enor, Nicolas Hodges, piano, Andre Richard, sound projection 11.30 Jazzz Century See Choice (r) 12.00em Composer of the Weelc Purcell (r) 1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod. 1.00 Bergen PO under Jonathan Nott. Wagner (Prefude and Liebestod, Tristan und Isolde); Svendsen (Symphony No 1) 2.35 Beethoven (Piano Trio in B Ital, Op 97, Archduke) 3.15 Beethoven (Triple Concerto in C) 3.55 Dvorak (Symphony No 9 in E minor, From the New World) 5.25 Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Therne of Paganini)

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day

5.40 Instrore Forecast 5.45 Präyer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today Rural news
6.00 Today with John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 Desert Island Discs Ruth Prawer Jhabvala (r)
9.45 (PM) Seriat: The Victorian Internet David
Ruriou reads from Torn Standage's history of the
electric telegraph (5/5) (r)
9.45 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray
11.00 Music on the Brain Peter Snow traces the origins
of background music (r) of background music (r)
11.30 The Oldest Member: The Heart of a Goof by

P.G. Wodehouse, with Michael Fenton Stevens, Helen Alkinson Wood and Jon Glover (5/6) 12.00pm (FM) Naws 12.00 (LW) Naws Headlines; Shipping Forecast 12.04 You and Yours Liz Barclay and John Wate

present consumer issues 1.00 The World at One with Nck Clerke 1.30 Puzzle Panel Chris Masianka presents riddles and brain-leasers

2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Atternoon Play: The Orchestra Comic study of the small-town gossip and back-biling within a brassele orchestra in 1950s provincial France. With Joanna Wake and Janine Ullane (r)
3.00 Logged On Quento Cooper assesses

contemporary issues of the computer age Despectately Seeking Investigation into people who place newspaper small acts, and the results they achieve (r) 3.45 This Sceptred Isle The history of Britain, with

readings by Roger May
4.00 Open Book Humphrey Cerpenter explores loreign
faction for children. Plus, a kook at the art of thriller

4.30 The Message Alex Brodie and his guests discuss current media trands
5.00 PM with Clare English and Eddie Mair 6.00 Stx O'Chock News
6.30 The Ghost of Number Ten Lottie aims to

eradicale world humper at the G7.5 summit in Downing Street. Political farce, by Steve Nalton and Turan Air (4/6)
7.00 The Archers Hayley suffers a betrayal
7.15 Front Row Francine Stock presents the nightty arts orconarrane

arts programme
7.45 Immer Voices by Rikkie Beadle Blair. Broadcast
earlier as part of Woman's Hour (5/10) (r)
8.00 Amy Questions? Harriet Harman, Nicola Horlick,
Peter Lilley and Andrew Phillips respond to
questions from an audience in Bishop Stortford,
Hardonishire

questions from an audience in Bishop Stortford, Herifordshire

8.45 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke

9.00 The Friday Play: Jupiter An old man's dreams of attracting a younger woman could prove his downleil. Siephen James's play. See Choice

10.00 The World Tonight with Robin Lusting

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets by John Mortimer. Teny Fitton suffers an unfortunate incident at the Harrscombe Hunt and subsequently has his picture emblazoned all over the papers

subsequently has his picture emblazoned all over the papers

11.00 (FM only from 11.30) Late Night on 4: Late Tackle Live from Maint, Eleanor Oldroyd and guests discuss the significance of American lootbat's Superbowl

11.30 (LW) Today in Partiament Update from Westminster

12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Round Ireland with a Fridge Final part of Tony Hawks' epic voyage around the Emerald Isle with his curious choice of traveling companion

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.649.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. PM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by lan Hughes, Rosembry Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and



### Catching sight of genius through the crowd

mysteries of world art is Goff", and the Americans say "Van Go", whereas the Dutch themselves say something like "Fn Ghghurghgh, Oh, sorry. Would you like a tissue?" But then we say "Monnay", and they say "Moanay" while the French say something poised decorously between the two.

Fortunately Loyd Grossman did not feature on Mad About Monet (BBCI), or the father of Impressionism would have sounded like a cheese sauce played at slow speed. He would not have been out of place, however, in the company of oddballs from the worldwide fraternity of Monet nerds, who peopled this peculiar, hybrid documentary.

Mostly it was a completely conventional biography. Contrary to the mythology, artists, like writers, often have surprisingly

ne of the great unsolved mysteries of world art is why the British say "Van dull private lives. Their diaries read: early breakfast, painting, dinner, why the British say "Van dull private lives. Their diaries shifting light patterns on a line of populars, lessing it and throwing the lunch, lots more painting, dinner, lot into the river, easel and all. played with cat, early bed. They spend far more time than most of us watching paint dry. Despite the fact that he spear-

headed a revolution in approach to art (actually he developed it from techniques pioneered in England by Turner and Whistler), Monet's ife was relatively uneventful and domestic. He was too busy exploring the possibilities of colour to be colourful himself. Life in his last home at Giverny was, we were told, almost "monastic".

Even the characterful anecdotes revolved around the success of his work - Monet cultivating his image as the artist out in nature, talking journalists to wild, dangerous locations. Monet misreading the tide timetables and almost gestling washed off a Normandy beach. Monet feverishly juggling 20 or 30 canvases as he tries to cappare the

the programme, like the artist, lived through the paintings. There were some Illuminating comments, but personally I didn't feel anybody really got inside that extraordinary genitis. Shots of rare or unusual works reminded us that he can still surprise us, despite decades of er-reproduction, although all were whipped from our sight with unseemly haste.

But the critical biography was intercut with another documentary about the Monet phenomenon, so the slightly disappointing art appreciation class was forever being interrupted by obsessives. reminding you why you no longer enjoy looking at his paintings. There was Jason, the Burton hairdresser, inspired by Athena reproductions to convert his salon,

REVIEW



Paul Hoggart

Monets", into a shrine, packed with flowers and Monet prints. There was Scott, the New England businessman, joining the stratospheric bidding for origi-nals, seeing ownership as the ultimate symbol of wealth and cultivation. The S-shaped fine of poplars looked like a dollar sign, observed the Sotheby's man, drily. And then there were the middleaged painters in anoraks, trying to: recreate the paradise of Monet's Giverny garden by a bleak, reed-fringed English pond.

In the end the programme performed a really useful service. I remembered that flush of awe and pleasure when I first saw his work. and realised I had fallen out of love, not with the paintings, but with other people's love of them. Next stop the Royal Academy.

But whars an artistic reputation when the fate of the Universe is at stake? If you attempt to explain the theories of astrophysics or cosmology in everyday language they tend to sound rather dumb. Towards the end of From Here To Infinity (BBC2), last night's Horizon, I began to think that this is because they are really durnb.

This was the gist. "We figured out that the Universe probably

began 15 billion years ago when it exploded in a ginormous fireball from a point of infinite density. Ever since then it has been

be slowing down because that's what usually happens after an explosion). Eventually its own gravity will start to pull it all back

been ignored by physicists.

Now Saul Perimutter has

slowing down, but speeding up.

in again, and it will collapse into itself in a 'big crunch'".

myself have hypothesised in this newspaper a "big boing" theory, whereby the Universe keeps pulsing in and out at hundred-billion-year intervals, but for some reason this seems to have

developed a system for spotting supernovae, exploding stars several jillion times brighter than ordi-nary stars, which occur very rarely and last only a few weeks. These, apparently, enable you to measure the speed of expansion of the further reaches of the Universe.

Perkounter and others have discovered that these stars are not faster. This has really upset the apple-cart. The boffins are appalled; some are even in denial. They can't understand what is pushing the Universe apart, Some mysterious force must be operating in the vacuum of space, overcoming gravity. Excuse me if this sounds dumb.

But since they haven't worked out how a point of infinite density came to be floating around in the void of eternity, and since they have no idea what made it explode, why do they think they can figure out what it's going to do next? How can you work out what the effects or duration of an explosion are going to be, if you haven't got the faintest idea what caused it in the first place?

"Knock, knock, knock!" yell the customs officers on The Knock (ITV). "Who's there?" we reply. "Ivor." "Ivor who?" "Ivor Surfeitofclichésinanotherwiseentertainingscript."

#### BBCT . 5.00am Business Breakfast (70558) 7.00 Breakfast News (T) (16287) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8145417)

9.45 The Vanessa Show (1) (5681287) 10.55 News; Weather (1) (7477981) 11.00 Real Rooms (7567558) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (74644 1/7) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1680813)

12.00pm Cail My Bluff (14726) 12.30 Wipcout (3019558) 12.55 The Weather Show (T) (5572:1610) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (13)(46) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (86178417) 1.40 Neighbours Karl has his car stolen (T)

2.05 Ironside (1) (7141707)

2.55 Body Spies Keep-fit routines for busy parents (1097418) 3.25 Children's BB/C: Playdays (1277702) 3.45 Spider (95/52813) 3.50 Smart on the Road (8978875) 4.05 Rugrats (9031875) 4.30 L & W Friday (1101078) 4.55 Newsround /Extra (1595523) 5.10 Blue

Peter (607/ú233) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (747455) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weether (T) (233) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (813)

7.00 Cefebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Light-hearted culmary contest with Coronation Street's Martin Hancock and ine Danson (T) (4320) 7.30 Top of the Pops includes performances

by the Offspring, Terrorvision, Gay Dad, Sebadoh and 911 (T) (487) Vets in Practice Sam is called on to calm the urges of a stallion (T) (1928) 30 A Question of Sport with Sue Berker, Stuart Pearce, Mark Richardson, Matt Dawson and Matthew Pinsent join regular team captains Ally McCost and John

Parrott (1) (9875) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;



Warren Beatty joins Michael Parkinson in conversation (9.30pm)

9.30 Parkinson The comedian-cum-actor Alan Davies joins Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern ketand, and the Hollywood Icon Warren Beatty on the acclaimed chall show (T) (423523) 10.25 Lock Up (1989) Sylvester Stallone stars

as a tough connect transferred by a sadistic warden to a brutal high-security prison. Thaller, with Donald Sutherland. Directed by John Flynn (T) (163455) 12.05am The Stand-Up Show Cornedy senes,

hosted by Ardal O'Hanlon (5462498) 12.35 The Big End A Merseyside man with a sideline in detection (r) (T) (5468160) 1.05 Blue City (1986) A drifter sets out to unmask his father's murderer, staming Judd Nelson and Ally Sheedy. Directed by Michelle Manning (T) (2203092)

20 Weather (9017030) 35 Tennis: Australian Open The women's 3 BBC News 24 (399585)

### BBC2

7.00am C'hildren's BBC Brealdast Show: Harry Jeremy (9247815) 7.05 Teletubbies / (2403252) 7.30 Secret Sourrei and Co (3392184) 7.55 Short Change (2706726) 8.18 Rewind (8185184) 8.20 Taz-Mania (9336504) 8.40 Polika Dot Shorts (8788287) 8.50 Johnson and Friends (8788287) 8.50 Johnson and Friends (8604271) 9.00 Storytime (7531542) 9.10 See You, See Me (6957707) 9.30 Numbertime (8720639) 9.45 Come Outside (8718894) 10.00 Teletubbres (90707) 10.30 Megamaths (3669932) 10.50 Look and Read (3689726) 11.10 Landmarks (1935726) 11.36 English File (6146) 12.00pm Scene (12368) 12.30 Working Lunch (30252) 1.00 Johnson and Friends (73140962)

1.10 The Great Picture Show (1) (82045726) 1.40 The Arts and Crafts Show Cloth floor coverings. Last in series (65879726)

2.10 Sporting Greats (22685900) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8428165) 2.45 Match of their Day (3/15) (9524374) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (2464726)

3.30 For the Future: The Irvine Fertility
Scandel (TVM 1996) A couple are
shocked to discover the Iruth behind their
infertility treatment at a supposedly
respectable clinic. With Marilu Henner.
Directed by David Jones (1) (88184)

5.00 Tennis: Australian Open Highlights of the second men's semi-final (1233) 6.00 The Simpsons (r) (T) (784252) 6.20 The Simpsons (r) (T) (795368)

6.45 European Figure Skating Champion ships Coverage from Prague (983374) 7.30 CHOICE Country House Lady Tavistock puts her money on a

new racehorse to revive the fortunes of Woburn Abbey's stud (T) (639) 8.00 Gardening from Scratch Jani and Rob create a wildflower meadow (r) (T) (1610) 8.30 CHOICE Garden Stories A look at the therapeutic benefits of gardens (T) (7417)

9.00 Gimme Gimme Gimme Offers of television work flood in for Torn (T) (8981)



More madcap comedy with VIc Reeves and Bob Mortimer (9.30pm)

9.30 Bang, Bang, It's Reeves and Mortimer The usual pan-slinging escalates to the point where whole cookers are being thrown (5/6) (T) (27788) 10.00 The Young Ones The students hold a

party (r) (1) (13097) 11.18 Video Nation Shorts (T) (996639) 11.20 Europeen Figure Skating Champion

ships Free dance coverage (688558) disturbing lacts about his family. Starring Lukas Haas and Lea Thompson. Directed by Jenny Bowen (T) (811566) 1.45 Weather (8666030) 1.50 Close 3.00 BBC Learning Zone: GCSE Sitesize Revision. History 1 (65160) 5.00 Close

snight With Kirsty Wark (T) (826981)

12.00am The Wizard of Loneliness (1988) youngster is sent to live with his grandparents and soon learns a lew

5.30am ITN Morning News (80720) 6.00 GMTV (6260542) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3034813) 10.30 This Morning (T) (24601523) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (9828691) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (34078) 12.59 HTV Crimestoppers (55723078) 1.00 WEST: Shortland Street Lionel re-

bad news (31542) 1.00 WALES: Wish You Were Here? Mallorca, Firmin and Great Yarmouth (r)

1.30 Home and Away Vinnie and Sally draw closer (T) (33349) 2.00 The Jarry Springer Show (T) (2375097) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (109875) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (2462368)

3.20 HTV News (T) (2452981) 3.25 CTTV: Mopatop's Shop (2442504) 3.35 Timbuctoo (9558097) 3.40 Antmal Stones (9539962) 3.50 Adam's Family Tree (8094829) 4.20 Gladiatoris Train 2 Win (9038788) 4.50 Top Ten of Everything (9631252)

5.10 A Country Practice Tom makes a shocking discovery (6604310) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (1) (345146) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (603813) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight The final report from South Ainca; Weather (T) (557271) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (959639)

6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (1) (981) 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right Popular game show (1) (6788) 7.30 Coronation Street Rita meets Sharon's



for Reed Aviation (8pm)

8.00 CHOICE Airline World Cup chaos descends on the staff at Luton Airport (T) (5436)

into life on the Cranhill estate on the outskirts of Glasgow (T) (7271) Cookson drama (4/4) (T) (7981)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (755184) 10.40 Friday Night's All Wright With Paul Whitehouse and Charlie Higson, Last in

11.30 Millennium Frank Black investigates the born seven years apart (r) (74455)

sports (9196498) 1.05 Georgy Girl (1966) Swinging Sides: cornedy about dowdy dance teacher Lynn Redgrave and her relationships with men. Co-starring James Mason. Directed

by Silvio Narrzzano (535160) 2.55 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (7397295) 3.25 Trisha Shown earlier (r) (T) (9370011) 4.25 Soundtrax (28098905)

8.30 Neighbours from Hell Chilling insight

9.00 Tilly Trotter Final part of the Catherine 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (38833)

series (10/10) (917287)

mystenous suicides of identical twin oaks 12.30am Pirate TV Offbeat guide to adventure

4.45 ITV Nightscreen Behind the scenes of ITV programmes (88978905) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (68498)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (6451639) 1.00 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (31542) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (9473894) 2.15-2.45 Home Springer Show (1) (9473894) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (100504) 3.20-3.25 Central News (1) (2452931) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6604310) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (1) (557271) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (1) (755184) 11.30 Tales from the Crypt (63417) 12.00am Short Story Cinema (5169160) 12.35 FILM; Steel Justice (1) (979214) 2.15 Box Office America (18450) 2.45 SecQuart 2022 (n. 17.15290204) 3.25 2.45 SeeQuest 2032 (f) (T) (6306924) 3.35 The Haunted Fishtank (f) (14763837) 4.05 Central Jobfinder '99 (T) (8487450) 5.20-5.30

#### WESTCOUNTERE

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (9828691) 12.27-12.30 Hiuminations (8532558) 1,90 12.27-12.30 Hiteminations (6532558) 1,90 Westcountry Update (31542) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (9473894) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (100504) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Westlier (1) (2452981) 5.08 Birthday People (8068788) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (6604310) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (1) (42097) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (755184) 11.30-12.30 Renegade (74455)

As HTV West except 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (9829691) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (8604310) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (1) (42097) 10.30 Meridian News; Weather (1) (755184) 10.40 Dream Town (784455) 11.10 Friday Night's All Wright (10/10) (61839) 12.00em-12.30 Tales from the Darkside (53905) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (1) (68498)

(T) [68498] . As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 News

(6451639) 5,10-5,40 Home and Away (1) (6604310) 6,00 News (1) (829) 6,30-7,00 Off the Beaten Track (1/10) (981) 18,30-18,40 News (1) (755184) 11,30-12,30 Bob Monkhouse on Campus (74455)

SC. C. C.

Starts 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (45405788) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47468542) 9.00 Ysgolion: Off Limits (98791639) 9.25 Schools Ysgoëan: Off Limits (98791639) 9.25 Schools at Work (72903165) 9.30 Eureka (89096542) 9.45 Stop, Look, Liszan (89091097) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (71228185) 10.10 TVM (35321287) 10.25 taith ar Daith (35237894) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (39561707) 11.00 The Tachnology Programme (18508252) 11.15 Pa Newydd? (18598875) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (24324097) 12.00pm Home Improvement (T) (16049252) 12.30 Sesame Street (T) (38041726) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (47541829) 1.30 Eartherspe (T) Sesame Street (1) (39041720) 1.00 Pained (1) (47541829) 1.30 Earthscape (1) (69305349) 1.40 FiLM: A Challenge for Robin Hood (1) (38487851) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (1) (56721233) 4.00 Fitteen-to-One ( T; (56740368) 4.30 Dishes (T) (56739252) 5.00 Planed Plant (T) (73989982) 5.30 Countdown (T) (56720504) **6.00 Newyddion** 6 (T) (69609894) **6.10 Heno** (T) (95301691) **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (T) (83884338) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (56730981) 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (T) (77589346) 8.30 Y Chyb Rygbi (1) (92339243) 9.00 Pawb a'l Fern (57277946) 10.00 Brookside (1) (54598894) 10.35 Prasier (1) (67420097) 11.05 Greham Norton: So Connected (T) (92411165) 11.45 TFI Friday (47745320) 12.45am Streetmate (1) (23947295) 1.15 NME Premier Live Shows (2/4) (26722547) 1.50 4 Later; The RuPaul Show (12645924) 2.20 Late Toon: Crimplens (I) (30714450) 2.30 The Mod Squad (47458059) 3.25 Vidz (85945653) 3.55 FILM: The Iron Curtain (87062383) 5.20 Diwedd

#### CHANNEL 4"

5.50am Magle Roundbout (n (7321788) 5.53 Animal Alphabet (7321788) 5.55 Sesame Street (r) (4250900)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (36097) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (6947165) 9.25; Schools at Work (7779707) 9.30 Eureka: (8715707) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8703962) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (4241691) 10.10 TVM (9916252) 10.25 Ulster Unearthed (9008287) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (5470829) 11.00 The Technology Programme 11.15 Stage One (6960726)

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4542) 12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (88356) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (25320)

1.00 Pet Rescue (r) (T) (39184)

1.30 Roots to Success (T) (66185707)

1.45 Between Heaven and Hell (1956).

Robert Wagner stars as an arrogant Southern landowner whose expenences that the former in the Recific cases him to

of combat in the Pacific cause him to change his ways. Directed by Richard Reischer (T) (77993610) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (1) (287) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (894)

4.30 Countdown (T) (1194788) 4.55 Ricki Lake Mothers meet their first loves (1) (4205146) 5.30 Pet Rescue A puppy learns how to

behave (T) (558) 6.00 TFI Friday Chris Evans is joined by Michelle Collins, Deborah Harry and Phil Tufnell (40639) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (939146)

7.55 Music of the Millennium British soul diva Beverley Knight (T) (862184) 8.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan An early mass-produced glass house is restored to its former glory (4/6) (r) (T) (3078)

8.30 Brookside (T) (5813) 9.00 Friends. The gang celebrate new year with a party (r) (1) (4879)

9.30 Streetmater Davina McCall visits Liverpool and Norwich (T) (45184) 10,00 Frasier Niles and Frasier miss out on a hot new show (1) (38815)



of his chat show series (10.30pm)

10.30 Graham Norton: So Connected Highlights from the linst series (443707) 11.10 King of the Hill Dale applies to be a bounty hunter (1) (107523) 11.40 TFI Friday (r) (414166) 12.45am NME Premier Live Show

Performances by Mansun, Gay Dad, Chicks and Witness (2/4) (3722905) 1.20 4 Later, The RuPaul Show (1085924). 1.50 Late Toon: Crimplene (8649363) 2.00 The Mod Squad (9474924) 2.55 Vidz Offbeat video reviews (r) (7395837)

2.55 Vid2 Official video reviews (1) (1330a7)
3.25 The Iron Curtain (1948) Fact-based thriller about a clerk working at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa who passed on top-secret information to the USA Wittem A. Wellman directs (T) (3871586) 4.50 Peart (r) (48442653) . . . .

#### CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Heading 7.00 WideWorld Part one Mark Chase assesses attitudes toward creat women (r) (7) (9461900)

7.30 Milkshakel (5904243) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (9192813)

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1532504) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (n (1531875) 9.00 Mixing It (r) (1) (1555455)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6991349) 10.20 Sunset Beach Annie receives a mysterious phone call (1) (2599097) 11.10 Leeza (2479523)

12.00pm 5 News at Noon (1) (1535691) 12.30 Family Affairs Chris offers to re-new his wedding vows (r) (T) (9301320)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sally mourns Saul's death (T) (9460271) 1.30 The Roseanne Show Sharon Stone and career: 5 News Update (9300691) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6721691)

2.30 Good Afternoon (4920455) 3.30 Take Your Best Shot (TVM 1982) An unemployed actor with a disinlegrating marriage struggles to turn his life around. Comedy, starring Robert Urich. Directed by David Greene (9004146)

5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T): 5 News Update (6553875) 6.00 100 Per Cent Quiz (5682900)

6.30 Family Affairs Disaster strikes on Roy and Mel's wedding day (1) (5673252) have learnt to live in groups, establishing close relationships with their companions

(T) (5679436) 8.00 CHOICE Was it Good for You? Aisa Greenheigh tollows sur-worshippers to a naturist retreat on the southern coast of Spain (4/14) (6741455) 8:30 Holiday Park (4/5) (T) (6720962)

9.00 A Promise to Carolyn (TVM 1996) True-life drama about two sisters who unite to bring to justice the stepmother whose abusive behaviour traumatised them during their formative years. Swoosia Kurtz and Deta Burka star. Directed by Jeny London (T), 5

Update (12789788) 10.50 Politergelst: The Legacy A secret society is formed to combat the forces of darkness, aiming to do away with a supernatural power contained within an encient Insh sepulchre (r) (T) (68550558) 12.30am The Happy Hooker (1975) Erotic adult drame based on a true story, starring Lynn Radgrave as the infamous brothel-keeper Xaviera Hollander. With Jean-Pierre Aumont. Otrected by

Nicholas Scgarro (9737566) 2.20 The Democratic Terrorist (1992) A Navy officer infiltrates a terrorist (1992) A Navy officer infiltrates a terrorist group, intense physical attraction to one of the passionate partisans. Thirler, starring

Stellan Skarsgard, Directed by Pelle Berglund (3155214) 4.05 Night Stand Spoof talk show (9769721) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Meg's appointment as Deputy Governor frustrates Joan (3498672) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (5904027)

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ONE Count Duckula (56875) 7.30 Smp-1610) 8.00 Smyrsons (33323) 8.30 od Squares (55900) 9.00 Sally aphael 42287; 10.00 Oprah Win-94) 11.00 Gully (57558) 12.00pm cres (77707) 1.00 Mod About You 1.30 Jeopardy (80271) 2.00 Sally laphael (42184) 3.00 Jerny Jones 4.00 Gully (54900) 5.00 Star Trek-pare Nine (2381) 6.00 Manual — Julian (8813) 8.30 Friends (7165) Liden (6913) 8.30 Friends (7165) the Sympsons (3610) 7.30 The ons (3349) 8.00 Beat the Crusher 349 (349) AND DBST ME UTUSTIES 44 9.00 World's Most Inceptible 44 mm3 Rescues 3 (57418) 10.00 Copa (31417) 10.30 Cops (40165) 11.00 Frends (75829) 11.30 Star Tief Ceep Space Nine (41725) 12.30em Highlander. The Senss (60978) 1.30 Long Play (5431672)

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To wee any Sim Idophone 0990 800998 SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) Jackle Chan's First Strike (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Tran The Borrowers (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) The Wings of the Dove (1967) The Devil's Advocate (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Fathers' Day (1997)

FILMFOUR 8.00pm Short Attention Span Cinema (7717691) 8.00 The Net (1995) (7729436) 10.00 The Pillow Book (1993) (822707) 12.10am Singles (1992) (822635) 1.50 Misrel Rhepsody (1995) (127382) 2.30 Misrier One (1995) (127382) 5.05 Cristra of Uneaca (1976547) 6.00 Close

SKY PREMIER 8.00em The Borrowers (TVN 1974) (78-41) 8.00 Napoleon and Samertha (1972) (31076) 10.00 Green Card (1990) (53558) 12.00pm That Thing You Dol (1995) 127829) 2.00 Napoleon and Samantha (1972) (55287) 2.40 Green Card (1990) (816252) 5.30 Moby Dick (1997) (38244) 8.00 That Thing You Dol (1998) (11120) 10.00 The Glammer Man (1996) (795078) 11.35 Frankle and Johnny (1991) (250691) 1.33en White

(1981) (650991) 1.35em White-

My Pretty One Sleeps (1997) (340214) 3.10 The Glass Cage (1996) (545092) SKY MOVIEMAX

5.30am Son of Godzille (1967) (22523)
7.00 Godzilla vs Megalon (1976) (70453)
9.00 Reburn to Snowy River (1988)
(46900) 11.00 Married to a Stranger
(1997) (13834) 1.00pm Chasing the Deer
(1994) (24788) 3.00 Reburn to Snowy
River (1988) (45542) 5.00 Bory Me in
Niagara (1992) (46349) 7.00 P (5078) 7.30
UK Top 10 (8417) 8.00 Fernmes Fatales
(4726) 8.30 Nonce Mage (3233) 9.00 Two
Much (1995) (17349) 11.00 The Relic
(1996) (682155) 12.50am Bad Moon
(1986) (5022818) 2.10 The House of
Frankenstein: Part One (1997) (7382356) Frankerstein: Part One (1997) (3822 3.40 The House of Frankerstein: Two (1997) (51 3295) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Flying Tigers (1942) (8454504) 6.00 Destination Moon (1950) (7532417) 6.00 The Hell with Heroes (1960) (7537962) 10.00 J Walk the Line (1970) (9663542) 11.40 The Rotorious Landlady (1962) (16816726) 1.45pm Bad Modicine (1965) (7794363) 3.53 Three Faces West (1940) (77568363) TNT

9.00pm WCW (7977190): 11.35 WCW Trumber (253)7728; 1.30am The Naunt-ing (1963) (67537092; 3.30 The Karate Killers (1967) (84339721) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1 6.30am Futures in Sport 7.00 Lino Golf-Hamskin Classic 10.00 Lecque Review 10.30 Fabol Murolal 11.00 Flugby Chib 12.00pm Aerolocs 12.30 League Review 1.00 What a Week-and 1.30 Golf Herroloon 3.30 Lecque Review 4.00 Trans World Sport 8.00 Futbol Murdia: 5.30 What a Weetend 8.00 Sports Center 7.00 Golf

Westernd 6.00 Sports Centre 7.00 Golf Herneken 9.00 Wesstrigt 11.00 Sports Centre 12.00mm Hold the Back Page 1.00 Sports Centre 2.00 Wesstrig 4.00 Hold the Back Page 6.00 Sports Centre SKY SPORTS 2 6.00am Live International Cricket 1.30pm What a Woekend 2.00 Trans World Sport 3.00 Shrwat of the Fidest 3.30 International Cricket 6.20 Alco Pies 6.29 H2O 7.00 Live Fiday Night Football 9.45 Shoolest Welsh

11.30am Futures in Sport 12.00pm Mito-Puis 12.30 Live Snooker Weish Open 4.00 Futbol Mundai 4.30 los Hockey 7.00 EUROSPORT

UK GOLD

GRANADA PLUS

9.30 The Comedans 10.00 Jokes VR: 10.30 Hogan's Heroes 11.00 Granada Men and Motors

FOX KIDS NETWORK

Open 1.00am H2O 1.20 Hold the Back Page 2.30 Sports Centre 3.30 US Golf: Phoens Open 5.30 World Sport Special SKY SPORTS 3

World Sport Special 7.30 International Circlet 19.00 US Golf: Phoenix Open

UK GOLD

7.00 m Crosmads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EauEndors 8.30 The B8 9.00 The 98 9.30
The House of Eliak 10.30 Phoda 11.00
Dalas 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00 Julies Brava 2.00 Dalas 2.55 The B8 2.25 The B8 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Phoda 5.00 Ar Creatures Great and Small 8.00 Dynasty 7.00 2points Children 7.40 it Anti Hall Hot. Mari 8.20 Yes, Minister 9.00 The Thin Blue Line 9.40 Knowing Mc, Knowing You with Alan Parindge 10.28 Ruby Viay Meets. Rossoume 11.00 The B8 11.30 The B8 12.00cm Doubr Who 1.20 Blake's Server, 2.15 Best of the CRG Grey Whistie Test 3.00 Shopping with Screenshop

GNANADA PLUS

6.0am Within Tress Waits 7.00 On the
Suses 7.30 Doctor in the House 8.00
Boade's About 8.30 Up the Garden Path
9.00 Classic Common Steel 9.20
Emmerdale Farm 10.00 thinksomething
11.00 Hawaii Pive-0 12.00pm CosociCoronation Street 12.30 Emmardate Farm
1.00 Nestect and Dearest 1.30 Agony 2.00
Inthissomething 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00
The Samt 5.00 Hawaii Pive-0 6.00
Emmardate Farm 6.30 Classic Coronation
Street 7.00 Mission Impossible 8.00 The
Love Boat 9.00 Classic Catoriagon Steet
9.30 The Comedians 10.00 Johns Wits9.30 The Comedians 10.00 Johns Wits-

6.80am Power Rangers Turbo 6.30 Power Rangers Turbo 7.00 Monal Kombat 7.25

Crgg and the Codumenths 7.20 Donking Party Country 8.00 Goodetumps 8.25 Sam and Na. 8.25 Speciamen 8.00 X-Man 9.25 Fernastic Four 9.50 The Incredible Hull. 10.15 Cosper 10.30 Orgg and the Coderoaches 11.00 The Mouse and the Monter 11.05 Ech Standgurer 11.20 Life and Louis 11.25 Home to Rent 12.05pm Sen and Max 12.30 Donkey Xong Country 1.00 Mongh The Pew Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Vertara 1.50 Spiderman 2.15 X-Man 2.40 Fernastic Four 3.25 The Incredible Hull. 3.30 Rey and Lisa's Big Ride 3.35 Martial Nombout 4.00 Spid amount 4.25 Mongh The New Adventures of Jungle Soil 4.50 Home to Rent 5.00 Goose-bumps 5.25 Earle, inclient 5.50 Orgy and the Codument 8.25 Sam and Max 8.50 Eck/Straegassa 7.00 Close Presider (CHANNET).

6.00mm Bear in the Big Blue House 6.25. Classic Toons 6.35 Gummi Beart 7.06 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladidin 7.35 (1) Datmations 8.00 Good Toops 8.25 Classic Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winnie the

Vivian Wu and Ewan McGregor star in Peter Greensway's

DISNEY CHANNEL

Priorit 9.00 That Adventures of Spot 9.05 Animal Shall 9.15 Phashot Dragors 9.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 9.85 The Toothbrugh Farmly 10.00 Bits Size 10.10 Tots TV 10.30 The Big Garage 10.46 PB and J Other 11.00 Sesame Sizes 11.20 pm The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Animal Shall 12.15 Pooted Dragors, 12.30 Bear in the Big Garage 1.45 PB and J O 10s 2.00 Cuarls Pack 2.30 New Adventures of Winner the Poot 8.00 The Unite Mermald 3.30 Art Astack 4.00 to 1 Delmalcines 4.30 Hercules The TV Show Bull Floores 9.15 Poppe Arm 5.30 Streat Gay 6.00 Tear Argol 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Honey, I Show Brooke 10.00 Filiate Big and Heiry (1989) 9.35 Home Improvement 10.00 Drussurs 10.30 Drus Woodel Versa 11.00 Touthed by an Argol 12.00em Clase an Argos 12.00em Cluss NICKELODEON .

6.00mm Mappet Babes 6.30 Ricko's. Modern Life 7.00 Catchy 7.30 Regrats 6.00 The Wild Thomberrys 6.30 Arthur 9.50

7.00cm USA High 7.36 City Guys 8.00 Saved by the Bell The New Class 8.30 Harry Time 9.00 Tempest 10.00 Hollycale 10.30 Echo Point 11.00 Sweet Valey High 11.30 California Decima 12.00 in the House 1.00 Tempest 2.00 Hollycale 2.30 Echo Point 3.00 Ready Or Not 3.30 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Phros of Bel-Air 4.30 in the House 9.00 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Phros of Bel-Air 4.30 in the House 5.00 Schol by the Rolf The Mose 1.00 Schol by the Rolf The Rolf The Mose 1.00 Schol by the Rolf The Rolf The Mose 1.00 Schol by the Rolf T House 5.00 Swed by the Balt The New Class 5.30 Swed Valley High 6.00 Hang Time 6.30 Movies, Games and Videos 7.00 USA High 7.30 Ready-or Not BRAVO 8.00pm The A-Team 9.00 LAPD 9.30 Cops 10.00 Educate Champoniship Virtualing 10.20 Erok: Sense 11.00 FILM: Laprachaum (1993) 1.00am See Bytes 1.30 Scarly See 2.00 Erbarus Champoniship Weeting 2.30 Cops: 3.00 FILM: The Punisher (1990) 5.00 LAPD 5.30 Bushdo 6.00 Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Clustess 7.30 Grace Under Fire 8.00 Research 8.30 Hers Radio 9.00 Cycil 9.30 FLM: If's a Mad, Mad, Med, Med, Med, Med World (1983) 9.30 Gog, 12.30am Lafe Night with Claud Letterman 1.30 The Crite 2.00 Dr. Katz 2.30 Soep 3.00 Wings 3.30 Mightstand 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: BOTH AND POCHT ONLY

Huis 5.00 Sightings 6.00 The Ray Bradbury Thesize 6.30 New Alfred Hechcock 7.00 Cuarsum Leap 8.00 Amazing Stories 6.30 Highlander The River 9.30 The Hunger 10.00 FILM: 388 and Techs. Excellent Adventure: (1988) 17.AG Schools 12.00am FB.Mr Wicked City (1993) 1.36 Sci-Focus <C F17~2.00 The Guyer 2.30 100 Years of Horror 3.00 The Twelght Zone 3.30 Dark Shadowa 4.00 Class HOME & LEISURE

6.00am Today's Goulmet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Capters 7.30 The Painted House 6.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 8.00 Smply Painting 8.30 The Great Gardon Game 10.00 Bloom 10.30 Coolistous with Greg and Max 11.00 Two's Country, Ges Stuck in 11.30 Res Hunt: Petring Advertures 12.00pm Our House 1.00 House 1.30 House 12.00 House 1.30 House Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Villa 3.00 This Old House with Steve and Norm 3.00 Se Fisting DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rec'huni Fishing Adventures 4.30 Weller 3. World 5.00 Flightime 5.30 History's Turring Posts 8.00 Annel Doctor 6.30 Wild Discovery Fiver of Beers 7.30 Beyond 2000 8.00. Cudack, Adventures 8.30 Undisarted Alnea 9.00 The Fastest Car on Earth 14.00 Bony Gray 11.00 Wespons of War 12.00pm Top Benaria 1.00 Flightims 2.00 Closs Turring Points 1.30 Flightims 2.00 Closs ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Profiles of Nature 1.00 Nature Watch with Julian Perifer 1.30 Australia Wat 2.00. What Personas 2.30 Human/Mature 3.30 Harry & Practice 4.00 Jack. Heaviery Annual Adventures 4.30 Animal Doctor 5.00 Per Resoure 5.30 Australia Wat 6.00 The New Adventures of Elinic Beauty 6.30 Lasses 7.00 Annual Plannet Cassos. The Anderson Islands 6.00 Antural Doctor 8.30 Animal X 5.00 Coden Water 9.30 Enception Vota 10.00 Kernals Vota 13.00 Enception Vota 10.00 Kernals Vota 13.00 Enception Vota 10.00 Kernals Vota 12.00 Enception Vota 12.00 Ence

SATELLITE: specialization of the second Train Emergency
7.30am Boombag: historial or releasion 19.00 Cardinal Cep 11.00 Dark Shadows
19.00 Tales of the Unappected 1,30 Tales of the Unappected 1,30 Tales of the Shark Fries. The Fox and the Unappected 1,30 Tales of the Shark Fries. The Fox and the Unappected 1,30 Tales of the Copycle 11.00 Wilds of Madagescar
Battlestar Galactica 4.00 The Incredible 12.00 Tales Tryon.

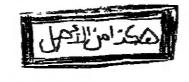
HISTORY 4.00pm. The World at War. Pincers 5.00 Television. Window to the World 6.00 The Curse of the Borgias 7.00 The Big House:

CARLTON FOOD 2.00sm Food Network Daily 9.30 Food for Thought: 10.00 First Tasse 10.30 Worran Thompson Cooles 11.00 What's Cooling? 11.30 Coson's Kitchen College 12.00pm. Food Network Daily 12.30 Newman Meets 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Gordon Ramsey's Passion Its Placout 2.00 Cm<sup>-1</sup> Stand the Heaf 2.30 Food Network Oally 3.00 For Better, for Worse 3.30 Choon's Kitchen College 4.00 New Chefs on the Block 4.30 Tessa Bramley's Country Kitchen 5.00 Close

8.00em Tiny and Crew 8.20 Philbert the Frog 6.30 Johnson and Friends 6.45 Tiny Toles 6.59 Polis Dot Shorts 7.00 Processor Bubble 7.30 Callou 7.25 Professor Bubble 7.30 Callou 7.25 Bug Alert 7.55 Professor Bubble 7.30 Callou 7.25 Bug Alert 7.55 Processor Bubble 7.30 Callou 7.25 Bug Alert 7.55 Processor Bubble 7.30 Practical Parenting 8.00 Berney and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Deci Show 9.30 The Floresones Show 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show 10.50 Meaus Powerh 11.40 Living Issues 12.70 Meaus Powerh 11.40 Living Issues 12.70 Meaus Powerh 11.40 Exposure 91 1.40 Beyond Bellet Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 Living Boom 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Roborale 5.40 Florety, Steady, Cook 8.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Resoure 911 7.25 Annual Rescue 8.00 Michael Call 9.00 FILM: When He's Mot er Stranger (TVM 1989) 11.30 Sec Lie Down Under 12.00em Close 6.00cm Tiny and Crew 6.20 Philbert the

ZEE TV 200 TV

8.30 m haute Time 6.00 Sorry Meri Lony
6.30 Mest Mears Show 7.00 Felth 7.30 News
8.00 Chooknia Astra 8.30 Salesto 8.00
Admiss 10.00 Arboni 11.00 Zeles Ka Saler
11.30 Passrypara 12.00 pm FILM: Hindi
Morrier Zamens Dewenn 3.00 Zee Bangla
3.30 to My Choice 4.00 Campus 4.30 Zee
Zen 9.30 Anamas 6.00 Antsi of the
Formight 6.30 Zee and You. Showcase
7.00 Chesne Beddoor 7.30 Entertament
Express 8.00 News 8.30 Assistanced 9.30
FILM: Hindi Morrier Senjan Sales
3.00 FILM: Hindi Morrier Senjan Sales
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4.00 K Zone 2.00 FILM: Hindi Morrier



Chandler relishing opportunity to send Falcons soaring



FRIDAY JANUARY 29 1999

### Unheralded Mauresmo overpowers Davenport to reach final

### Teenager muscles in on the women's game

SHE bears the shoulders of a man and plays like one. So ventured Lindsay Davenport. Margaret Court. But Court, four times an Australian Open champion, did not have the the world No 1, who was sensa-tionally bundled out of the Australian Open by Amelie Mauresmo, of France, yesterday. Mauresmo, unseeded, plays Martina Hingis, the defending champion, in the final tomorrow after Hingis subdued Monica Seles in the second semi-final.

Mauresmo's victory represents something of a statement on the future of women's tennis. The world junior champion in 1996, when she over-whelmed her fellow teenagers with her raw strength, Mauresmo now threatens to trample over all-comers in the

senior game. Hingis will start as a warm favourite to land her third successive Australian Open title, but in the longer term Mauresmo. 19, promises to raise the bar of performance to fresh heights. Her style resembles that of a Spanish male baseliner, deploying heavy top spin from her long, looping ground strokes. Such an approach requires considerable strength. Mauresmo pos-

"She does not hit the ball like any other girl." Davenport said. "Women's tennis isn't normally played like that. She hits the ball so hard, so strong. I thought I was play-ing a guy." When told of Davenport's comments, Mauresmo said: "I take that as a compliment. I need to feel very strong physically to play my

Christine Truman ventured similar thoughts when, 30 years ago, she first set eyes on

hint of masculinity about Mauresmo's face, nor her masculine hands. Add to that Mauresmo's imposing physique, which she has developed through regular gym work, and you have the template for women's tennis in the 21st century. Power is increasingly

the name of the game.

It was all too much for Davenport, who had not dropped a set in her previous 12 grandto handle Mauresmo's first service, which often reached velocities of 180kph, and suc-cumbed 4-6, 7-5, 7-5 in 1hr

Even when Davenport estab-

lished a 4-2 lead in the decisive set, she looked strangely vulnerable. It was almost as though Davenport, not Mauresmo, was appearing in her first grand-slam semi-final.

Mauresmo has yet to win a tour. Her junior record embraced titles at Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 1996. after which she was expected to make an immediate impression at senior level. A spate of minor injuries halted her in her tracks until, in May last vear, she announced herself as

an emerging force in Berlin. On that occasion, Mauresmo fended off match points in qualifying, then accounted for Dominique van Roost, Davenport and Jana Novotna before



Gym'll fix it: Mauresmo has worked hard to develop an imposing physique that helped to account for Davenport yesterday

falling to Conchita Martinez in the final. Her world ranking rose 80 places, to No 29, in

Mauresmo is here with her girlfriend, Sylvie Bourdon, who runs a tennis bar in St Tropez, Mauresmo moved permanently to St Tropez late last year and hired Christophe Fournerie, a journeyman professional, as her coach. She is bidding to become the first unseeded grand-slam champion since Chris O'Neil won here 20 years ago. O'Neil earned Aus \$6,000 for her triumph; Mauresmo stands to collect

\$679,000 (about £270,000). Remarkably, Mauresmo, unheralded before this tournament, is the elder of the finalists. Hingis is nine months younger and plainly fancies

her chances of capturing her fifth grand-slam title. The two have played twice previously. Both times. Hingis won in three sets. In their most recent encounter, in July, Mauresmo actually led by a set and 4-1. Hingis remembers the meet-

ing well.
"She has tended to choke once in a while when she was leading," Hingis said. "Even when she played against me, she made a few errors which she shouldn't have." Mauresmo was not found wanting against Davenport. She was a

LINKS

TELEVISIONE Eurosport, Sem (live), 4pm, 10pm (highlights), BBC2, 5pm (highlights)

bastion of mental strength, imposing her presence on the best player in the world for the past six months.

Mauresmo also repelled two match points in her firstround match here, against Corina Morariu. However, her physique does not intimidate Hingis. "Serena Williams has stronger shoulders," Hing-is said. "I don't think that she hits the ball very hard. I have a big chance to win this title again and I am definitely pleased that I don't have to

play Lindsay in the final." Hingis's 6-2, 6-4 defeat of Seles severed the latter's 33-game unbeaten streak in this tournament. Seles, seeded No 6, was a pale imitation of the player who accounted for Steffi Graf 24 hours earlier.

She opened with a stream of unforced errors and never came to terms with Hingis's clever courtwork. A key factor was Hingis's high first-service ratio of 64 per cent.

The first men's semi-final, between unseeded opponents, went to Thomas Enqvist, who trounced Nicolas Lapentti 6-3, 7-5. 6-1. In the final on Sunday, Enqvist plays either Yevgeny Kafelnikov, seeded No 10, or Tommy Haas, who crossed swords in the early hours of

this morning. Meanwhile, Hannah Collin, of Surrey, reached the quarterfinals of the girls' singles when she dismissed Melanie Clayton, of Australia, 6-2, 6-4 Collin was due to play Nadej-da Petrova, of Russia, seeded No 1, in the early hours.

### Collymore's plight leaves his manager bewildered

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

WHEN John Gregory, the stress yesterday, his answer was emphatic. Think of a 29-year-old player at Rochdale who has got three months left on his bootiract, a mortgage and three kids," he said. "I wonder whan's going through his mind when he reads about

all this."

Gregory's delivery was cold and unemotional, with little visible sympathy for the apparent plight of Stan Collymore, the temperamental Villa striker. On Monday, it was revealed that Collymore is suffering from stress is seek.

suffering from stress, is seek-ing medical advice and will not be available to Villa in the foreseeable future.

With the move of Juninho, the Atlético Madrid midfield player, to Villa Park edging closer. Gregory was able to take some crumbs of comfort from a tiring and confusing week. Yet the continuing woes of Collymore bewilder him.

"Maybe I'm a bit old-fashioned," he said, "but it's an issue that is new to me and I don't think any other player at this club is likely to get like that. But then, I suppose no one has had the pressures like Stan has. I'm tôld ît's stress. There are no substances or alcohol involved. Yes, we will give Stan our support, as we would any of our employees. How it will pan out? I really don't know. I'm a football man-

ager, not a social worker." He added: "I can't understand how someone in his posi-tion could end up like this. He's got a serious problem and only he can really sort it out. We've done everything to help him. He wanted to see someone about it and we've

It is unlikely that Collymore, 28, can now play a prominent role in Villa's tilt at the FA Carling Premiership title. Gregory has tolerated, with gritted teeth, the player's frequent indiscretions — as did Brian Little, his predecessor - but his manner yesterday suggested that he will take

Whether Collymore is genuinely stressed out or simply feeling sorry for himself — Gregory left little doubt as to

his personal prognosis - the door, at least, has been left ajar. Yes, I can see Stan playhe'll be in the team. But I've got 19 or 20 other lads I'm con-

desbrough player, would strengthen Gregory's hand should he join the club next week for a fee of about £10 million. He was impressed by what he saw at Villa Park on

Gianni Paladini, Juninho's advisor, said yesterday: "I'm 90 per cent certain that the deal will go through." Gregowas more cautious. "I think e's getting a bit carried away



about fifty fifty at the moment. I've spoken to one or two people about the lad and he's a genuine character. Even when Middlesbrough were facing relegation, he was trying his little heart out."

Juninho, 25, has made it clear that he does not want to sold him for £12 million 18 months ago and hold a first option on him. However, any move from Spain hinges on a clause in his contract that states he is entitled to 20 per cent of the transfer fee.

Viv Anderson, the Middlesbrough assistant manager, said: "Because we have first option, Villa are legally bound to inform us when they have agreed a deal. Whenever we hear from them, we will decide on our response."

THESTWO

No 1627

- I Old City headgear (6,3) 6 A fruit (full) dress (3) 8 Raise false alarm (3,4) 9 Warning hooter (5) 10 Sound reproduction equip-
- ment (2-2) [1] Figure of speech (8) 13 N African desert (6) 14 Steal pettily (6) 17 Heavy shower (8)
- 18 Simple card game: break (4) 20 Tiny pathogen (5) 21 Causing hurt (7) 22 Staff, shaft; 5½ yds (3) 23 Take to pieces (9)

#### DOWN

- 1 God of wine (7) 2 Normal (selfish) behaviour (3,2,3,5)
- 3 School, founded 1440 (4) 4 Blew heavily: was resentful 5 Aus. island state (8) seriously 6 Not (done)
- (3.3.2.2) 7 One on last legs (5) 12 (Motion) put forward (8) 15 Forcibly push back (7) 16 Noisy commotion (6) 17 Underwater worker (5)

19 It town, famous campanile

#### **SOLUTION TO NO 1626**

ACROSS: I Castor 5 Side 8 Fail 9 Singular 10 Misplace 11 Funk 12 Mentor 14 Pollux 16 Taxi 18 Trousers 20 Dormouse 21 Love 22 Myth 23 Tangle DOWN: 2 Avarice 3 Tulip 4 Restaurateur 5 Soulful 6 Drain 7 Under protest 13 Triumph 15 Unravel -17 Agony 19 Salon

SOLUTION TO BOXING DAY TIMES TWO JUMBO Page 50 suspended for a year, and lic, and the officials, and has

### Ranatunga wins reprieve but Sri Lanka face World Cup ban

SRI LANKA, the World Cup holders, may be prevented from defending the trophy when the competition is held in England this summer. That was a possible implication after an extraordinary fourhour disciplinary hearing convened by the International Cricket Council (ICC) into the behaviour of Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri Lanka captain.

Peter van der Merwe, the ICC match referee, decided refuctantly, after lengthy legal submissions, that he could not impose a suitable punishment on Ranatunga for his behaviour in Adelaide last Saturday. Now the ICC will revise its code, circle it with a ring of fire, and make sure constituent countries sign up, irrespective of what lawyers may argue. Sri Lanka have shown that they regard legal nitpicking more highly than either the spirit of the game or its laws, and if they do not amend that view then their invitation to take part in the World Cup the ICC's showpiece event

-- could be rescinded. Ranatunga threatened to take his players off the field, and told Ross Emerson, one of the umpires, that he, Ranatunga, was in charge of the match. Ranatunga was found guilty of misconduct under the terms of the ICC code of conduct, handed a six-match ban,

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN PERTH

fined 75 per cent of his match

However, afterwards, van der Merwe, in a statement of remarkable frankness and considerable feeling, made it clear that he had been tied up by the arguments of Ranatunga's lawyers, who won an adjournment at the original hearing on Tuesday and argued restraint of trade when it

resumed yesterday. "This code was drawn up by cricketers, to be administered by cricketers," van der Merwe said. "It was a great disappointment and a very complicated matter, to find that legal people were in prominence at this hearing. I have no doubt the ICC will take heed of this hearing, and the way it had to be conducted. This little green book will find a lot of amendments in the next edition.

"The charge against Ranatunga was proved. He violated clause one of the code of conduct, that he did not at all times maintain the spirit of the game, besides the laws. Should he be guilty of further violations of the code, then natcome into play, as well as what-

urally the suspension will ever sanctions he incurs. "Ranatunga expressed regret at the embarrassment he caused his opponents, the pub-

been warned that his every action will be very closely monitored over the next twelve months. It may not be easy for whoever does the match referee's job in the next year, but it is incumbent upon every official to do whatever he considers necessary, or some times only what is possible.

This unfortunate happening has cost Ranatunga a great deal in the popularity stakes and respect. I told him that both he and I will lose by this decision."

Such openness from an official of the ICC is rare and reflected the frustration felt by van der Merwe, which was



Ranatunga: misconduct

Alec Stewart, the captain, and Graeme Hick, who was batting when Ranatunga tried to take his players off, attended the hearing but were required for only 20 minutes as the Sri Lankan legal team presented their case.

Other cricketing nations are fed-up with the antics of the Sri Lankans and their manipulative and abrasive captain. Australia will point out that Ian Healy was banned for two matches in South Africa two years ago, for throwing his bat away after he had left the field. England will recall that Chris Lewis was fined A\$1,600 (£600) for "sending off" Craig McDermott in a Test match at

Adelaide four years ago. Now the world has seen Ranatunga try to lead his team off, prod an umpire in the chest, swear at match officials and tell one of them: "I'm in charge of this game." If an ICC match referee cannot enforce the code of conduct when the evidence is so overwhelming, the constitution needs to be ripped up, and will be.

As for the Sri Lankans, they have disgraced themselves with their flagrant disregard for the game, and those who guard it Their lawyers may have got the captain off the hook this time, but his reputation has gone. Throughout cricket, his name is mud.



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